

Allen quits national security job

Mr Richard Allen resigned as National Security Adviser after a meeting with President Reagan. White House sources said he would be succeeded by Mr William Clark, Deputy Secretary of State. His resignation came after an internal White House report on his conduct. Mr Allen had been under investigation for allegedly accepting \$1,000 from a Japanese magazine and for business dealings in Japan.

Ulster rift resignation

Mr Alan Wright, chairman of the Police Federation of Northern Ireland, resigned last night after a bitter disagreement with the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary over allegations that the federation had discussed setting up an extra force outside the RUC and its reserve.

Lifeboat fund nears £2m

The fund for the dependants of the eight men who lost their lives in the Penlee lifeboat disaster now stands at £1.9m. Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said that the fund could come direct to him to discuss difficulties.

Astors to leave Hever Castle

Lord and Lady Astor of Hever are to leave Hever Castle, in Kent, this summer, and it will be used for "Stay at Hever" holidays at £220 a day. Americans have been told that the price includes "absolutely everything".



Ghana's head of state arrested

President Hilla Limann of Ghana, overthrown in last week's military coup, was arrested while trying to escape from the regime of Flight Lieutenant Rawlings. He was sent back to the capital, Accra, radio said.

Tornadoes and snow kill 300

More than 300 people have died in the United States in the past four days as a result of bad weather that has included snow, tornadoes and torrential rain. Several dozen houses were demolished by a series of tornadoes in Mississippi.

Gill may cast golden vote

Legal opinion is divided on whether Mr Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation, will be able to cast the 15 per cent of votes he still holds in favour of his record £750,000 payoff package.

French divorce

The French divorce rate more than doubled in the 1970s and nearly two divorce suits in three are initiated by women, according to two new studies.

Spurs at home

Tottenham Hotspur, the Cup holders, and Manchester City, the League leaders, are at home respectively to Leeds United and Coventry City in the fourth round of the FA Cup.

James and Elizabeth top the lists

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Jaruzelski meets envoys

EEC snubs Reagan over Poland

Brussels, Jan 4.—The EEC pledged today not to undercut American sanctions over Poland and warned Moscow to stay out of the Polish crisis. The 10 member states held back on any sanctions of their own but said they would also consider trade curbs if the Polish military crackdown continued.

European diplomats agreed that the results of a seven-hour special meeting of EEC foreign ministers failed to meet demands by the Reagan Administration for a united Western stand over Poland.

However, Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, said it was the united wish of the Community that it should not do anything which would undermine actions taken by the United States.

The foreign ministers studied a report radiated from Warsaw after EEC ambassadors were called to a sudden meeting today with General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish military leader. Lord Carrington said the talk with General Jaruzelski had produced absolutely nothing.

"It was a fairly banal, routine exposé of the Polish case," he said.

Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister who chaired the Brussels meeting, described the report from Warsaw "as tragic in a certain sense".

Warsaw radio said General Jaruzelski had informed the Western diplomats about the situation in Poland and had emphasized the importance of East-West trade exchanges.

Western observers said earlier that General Jaruzelski appeared to have arranged the meeting to persuade Western governments from joining American sanctions against Poland and the Soviet Union.

According to the broadcast, monitored in Vienna, the Polish leader told the diplomats that "Poland wishes to fulfil the role of trustworthy partner in international economic relations". He was quoted as saying Poland wanted to be a "constructive factor" in the process of détente.

Mr Jozef Cyrankiewicz, the Polish Foreign Minister, was reported to have extended both the meeting with Western diplomats and the preceding talk with the Soviet block ambassadors.

M Claude Chevesson, the French Foreign Minister, vetoed a West German proposal to send an EEC emissary to Poland.

The foreign ministers said in a joint statement that the already grave Polish situation would be further aggravated if it led to open intervention by the Warsaw Pact. For this reason, the EEC wished to issue a solemn warning against any such intervention.—Reuter and AP.

Military Council keeps up action to crush dissent

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 4 (censored)

Poland's Military Council is pushing ahead with its two-pronged strategy of purging the party and crushing dissent. The party purge is being carried out by a series of organizations who have been organizing strikes and protests against martial law.

An article in Trybuna Ludu made it clear that the party is trying to weed out undesirable: Anti-socialist opposition in Poland is a fact and this party became 'less of a party'. Today they are returning their party cards voluntarily or are being asked to do so.

At the same time, local activists from Solidarity—now illegal—are being put on trial. A PAP news agency report announced that five men had been sentenced, at a summary trial, to between three and a half and seven years' imprisonment, with additional fines and "deprivation of civil rights" for organizing a strike at the Katowice steel mill after the introduction of martial law.

Another four men, all Solidarity members, were jailed for between four and six and a half years for "halting the normal production cycle". This is the latest of a series of summary trials against strike attempts all of which have been announced by the official media. The sentences are obviously aimed at having a deterrent effect on potential organizers and most jail terms have been at least three years.

At one summary trial at the Warsaw Central Court-house, attended by this correspondent, activists were allowed defence lawyers but the only possible defence was that the accused did not have a central organizing role.

Alliance leaders square up for talks

By Hugh Noyes

The fragile alliance between the Liberals and the Social Democrats took a further battering yesterday as the leadership on both sides appeared to be digging in their heels over Mr William Rodgers' decision to suspend all negotiations on the division of seats between the two parties.

The SDP leadership yesterday issued a statement giving their full support to Mr Rodgers, who will today meet Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, in an attempt at reconciliation.

Mr Rodgers yesterday entertained Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen to a working lunch at his house. Mrs Shirley Williams, the fourth member of the gang of four, is still in hospital after a tobogganing accident, but was consulted by telephone.

After giving his support to Mr Rodgers over the bargaining negotiations, the state-for constituents that all four hoped for the successful outcome of the discussions with Mr Steel "because the continuing success of the alliance is essential to both parties and is widely desired by the electorate".

But it became clear during the day that whatever happens today, the problems over the division of seats are not going to be easily resolved. Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, said that his party's negotiators were in touch with each other in an attempt to decide what should be done.

One problem was that the SDP had never told the Liberals that the negotiations were suspended. He denied that Mr Rodgers had notified Mr Steel of the suspension before Christmas.

It also emerged that the difficulties run deeper than merely the two or three seats in Derbyshire and at Greenock and Port Glasgow.



Alpine hunt for Red Brigades hide-out

Carabinieri searching an abandoned Alpine fort north of Verona yesterday in the hunt for the kidnapped American Brigadier-General James Dozier and the four women with Red Brigades connections who broke out of jail in Rovigo on Sunday.

Signor Pasquale Zappone, the Verona police chief, said he thought the kidnapping and the jail-break were linked. He added that on December 16, the day before General Dozier was seized, guerrillas tried to kidnap the American General Wilson Cooney. But General Cooney was away and his wife refused to open the door.

Yorkshire town centre under 4ft of water

By Frances Gibb

Doreas of families in the market town of Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire, were evacuated by soldiers and the police yesterday when the River Ure burst its banks and brought the worst floods there for 100 years. The town, under four feet of water, was one of the most badly affected by flooding throughout the country.

West tracts of land are submerged and villages marooned after incessant rain and melting snow caused rivers to overflow.

The City of York was on flood alert last night with dozens of houses already flooded and the river still rising. The River Ouse was 15 feet above its normal level and expected to rise to 15 foot 9 inches, an inch below the level that caused £1 million of damage in 1978.

Many families were evacuated from their homes. Fifteen streets were closed and the A19 south of York was passable only by heavy lorries.

A schoolboy drowned in a flooded field at Low Comersdale, near Carlisle. He was cycling along a footpath to visit the dentist when his bicycle careered into a deep well which had opened up because of flood water.

Two men were also missing, feared drowned, in the River Thames.

In Scotland Dumfries was under three feet of water and all roads to Ennals were cut. The A74 were cut off. In Cumbria and Yorkshire the West Country rivers reached 15 feet above normal levels, the highest in some places since 1969.

The RAC described Scotland as "sheer hell". Motorists were advised only to travel if absolutely necessary and to carry boots and dry clothing in the event of the car becoming marooned.

Dozens of roads were closed. Continued on page 2, col 2

Labour to get union ultimatum on cash

By Donald Macintyre

Labour Party leaders will be told today that they should immediately appoint a Director of Finance, bring in stringent controls on spending and agree to a series of union proposals for raising funds if the party is to survive an "extremely serious" financial crisis.

Senior trade union leaders will argue at a special conference that the Labour Party will effectively forfeit the level of financial support it desperately needs from the unions unless it puts its financial situation in order.

In the most devastating and detailed criticism of the way in which the party's national executive has allowed the crisis to develop, a Trade Unions for a Labour Victory paper going to today's meeting in Bishop's Cleeve, Shropshire, says that:

● The "dangerously low" level of the general election fund is unlikely to rise to more than £2m of the £3m the party needs to fight its next campaign.

● That the executive's approaches to the finances of the party are "soundly based" and depends all too little on internal controls and good housekeeping.

● That the party's accounts are not presented in a way that the "actions and policies of the treasurer, NEC and administrative staff at Walworth Road (the Labour Party HQ) can be fully understood".

The language of the critique is clearly intended to shock executive members and the Shadow Cabinet into accepting that the financial crisis facing the party is more serious than has been admitted so far.

The party's overall financial value slumped from £492,000 to £166,000 during 1980 and bank overdrafts rose from £51,000 to £461,000. The paper says the party had at the end of 1980 the largest bank overdraft ever, the largest deficit in the general fund for over 10 years and the smallest general election fund for over 10 years, and more money owed to creditors than ever before.

The financial paper, which is the most detailed of those which the conference will consider, underlines the level of leverage which the unions now have on the party.

The document suggests unions should contribute to a new general fund after a finance director is appointed and a union-organized membership drive. Too often, it says, the unions' principal role "was merely to fill the bowl when it was passed around and that approach can no longer be accepted."

The unions point out that if the political levy in all unions was increased to the £1 per year per member paid by the unions currently raising the highest levy, it could bring in £3m a year. The unions on average raise a political levy of 50p per member per year.

The two day conference is likely to open with a number of union leaders pressing for an end to party infighting and a guarantee from the supporters of Mr Wedgwood Benn that he does not reopen a deputy leadership campaign this year.

The claim by Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, that he did not think Mr Benn would challenge Mr Denis Healey for the deputy leadership this year looked like wishful thinking last night (Sunday News writes).

Mr Foot's remarks at the weekend were clearly made in the hope of a response from Mr Benn which might sweeten the discussions between the two wings of the party. But last night Mr Benn was not prepared to play along with this gambit and it was clear that he had given no such assurance to Mr Foot.

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The £26m gifts of a shy tycoon

By David Hewson

The guard dogs were out as usual yesterday at the home in Newmarket, Suffolk, of Mr David Robinson, the reclusive millionaire benefactor who has offered £400,000 to replace the Penlee lifeboat.

Though Mr Robinson is one of the largest benefactors in British history the barrier of privacy he has built around him has not slipped for 12 years.

His close associates, notably Miss Peggy Umney, the personal aide whose name appears with Mr Robinson's on the chapel at the Cambridge college built with £18m of his money are by now used to reiterating to the press their comments that Mr Robinson is a shy man who simply wants to help people.

At Robinson College, which was opened by the Queen last May at a ceremony which Mr Robinson unexpectedly failed to attend, Mr Henry Woolston, the bursar, said: "He comes here not infrequently. He was here the other day but he slips in quietly to spend a few minutes with us. He doesn't like a lot of fuss."

In fact, Mr Robinson, aged 77, has gone out of his way to avoid fuss in a decade of giving away vast sums of money to public causes.

His publicly recorded gifts total £26.05m, but the full total, taking into account the donations which have never come to light, is thought to be substantially higher.

All are made through the Robinson Charitable Trust, which leads Mr Robinson to remark to close friends that the gifts are not from him personally.

However, the trust was formed mainly out of the money he made from selling the family business he developed, Robinson Rentals, a television rentals firm based in Bedford, for more than £8m in 1968. And Mr Robinson personally directs the trust's activities.

He has owned the largest racehorse stable in Britain, with around 150 horses trained near his Newmarket home. But today the horses are gone, following a row with the Jockey Club and an unsuccessful attempt to run Kempton Park.

Mr Robinson: Fortune from TV rentals

He lives, with his wife Mabel, in a small but luxurious bungalow surrounded by electronic fences and guard dogs. Both he and his wife are reported to be in frail health.

Mr Robinson left school at the age of 15 to work in his father's bicycle shop in Cambridge, and bought into the TV rental business with his wife in 1954 for £5,000.

The acts of the Robinson Charitable Trust have been an odd mixture of reticence and clamour for acclaim. On the one hand, the college he has founded bears his name; and on the other, the details of his and his wife's lives.

On the other, Mr Robinson shuns interviews, goes out of his way not to be photographed, and has a reputation for being fiercely protective of those close to him, and downright cantankerous to anyone who he feels has been disloyal.

Gifts from the Robinson Charitable Trust made public: £350,000: public swimming pool, Bedford, October 1969; £5m: Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, November 1971.

£300,000: Popworth Hospital, Cambridge, to guarantee at least 15 heart transplants, March 1980; £2m: rebuilding Mill Road maternity hospital, Cambridge, July 1980; £18m: Robinson College, Cambridge, opened by the Queen in May 1981; £400,000: replacement of Penlee lifeboat, January 1982. Total: £26.05m.

Mr Robinson could be one of the last large individual benefactors, the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), which acts as a broking body for tax privileged funds to charities, said.

Corporations are becoming the biggest donors. Each year the CAF compiles a league table of the companies which give most to charity. For the period of 1979 to 1980 this is topped by the pharmaceutical group the Wellcome Foundation (£9m), followed by the Distillers Company (£4m), Barclays Bank (£1.25m), Marks and Spencer (£860,000), and ICI (£800,000).

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

## Sealink cuts ferry and 240 jobs

More than 240 seamen operating the cross-Channel ferry, Sealink, from Newhaven to Dieppe, were told they would lose their jobs when Sealink UK, the British Rail subsidiary, announced yesterday it would pull out of the service at the end of the month.

British Rail had failed to negotiate satisfactory terms for the continued running of the route with its partner, SNCV, the French railways. Sealink will be put up for sale on February 1. The French ships at present on the route will continue to operate.

## Prison reformer dies at 61

Mr William Pearce, Chief Inspector of Prisons since last January, and a key figure in the reforms proposed for the prison system after the May inquiry, has died aged 61 (Peter Evans writes).

He was appointed to keep an independent check on the way prisons were working, as well as to seek out a greater social role for prison staff.

When Chief Probation Officer for Lower London, Mr Pearce introduced projects to ease into work young men whose histories of repeated offences and custodial sentences had made them unable to keep a job.

## Police appeal on murdered girl

The police appealed for help yesterday in finding a man who raped and beat to death Marion Croft, aged 14, on a canal tow-path in Farnborough, Hampshire, seven months ago.

At a press conference, the police disclosed that a family had seen a man pushing a bicycle near the scene of the murder. The bicycle was later found in the canal. A maroon Corvair car and a white lorry, seen parked nearby, are also being sought.

## Queen's doctor retires at 65

Sir Richard Bayliss, physician to the Queen since 1970 and head of her medical household for nine years, who has just retired at 65. His successor as head of the Queen's medical household is Dr John Batten, physician to the Queen, Buckingham Palace said yesterday. Sir Richard assisted at the birth of both Princess Anne's children and has attended Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

## Inquiry on pill claim

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, last night ordered inquiries to be made into allegations by the Responsible Society that some health authorities are ignoring government guidelines which say parents should normally be told when contraceptives are given to children aged under 16.

## Kendall's new TV job

Kenneth Kendall, the former BBC news reader, is to join Television South West, the new IBA franchise holders. Terms were agreed yesterday. He will present the first regional weekly news roundup series for the deaf and hard of hearing.

## Post dispute settled

A dispute which had closed all postboxes in north London since New Year's Eve is over. Postmen at the Haringey sorting office had banned overtime because they said they were not getting enough overtime.

## U.S. go for Jags in a big way

The Jaguar has always been one of the most coveted cars in America. And the new Jaguars seem to be even more popular, with an increase in sales of over 50% for the year—more than any other overseas manufacturer.

These extra sales are worth more than £20 million for Britain's balance of payments.

Coming at a time when



A dip for sheep at Boroughbridge, in North Yorkshire, where soldiers ferried them to safety. Below: A stranded resident in the town receives food.

## Three feared dead in floods

Continued from page 1

by the snow, sleet and rain and snow ploughs had to clear a section of the Glasgow to Edinburgh M8.

In Edinburgh roads through-out the city were up to six inches under water.

In the borders, main roads linking Hawick with Jedburgh and Kelso were blocked and a number were evacuated in Jedburgh. In North Northumberland, the Tweed rose by more than 10 feet to a level of 20 feet at Northam, west of Berwick.

At Boroughbridge, melting hillside snow caused the river to swell by 15 feet and overflow into the High Street to a depth of four feet and many homes, stores and public houses were evacuated.

Mr Derrick Wilkinson, a newsagent, said: "It is the worst flooding we have known. The supermarket is under water, a hairdresser's shop is flooded, and beer barrels are floating around the pub cellar." Mr and Mrs Peter Watson and their two children

awoke to find their house surrounded by water and escaped to safety by canoe.

Mr Harold Payne said he awoke to find furniture floating on the ground floor of his house in the Market Square. "I have never seen anything like it. The water seemed to come up very suddenly. We were helpless to do anything. Even the car is under water in the garage."

Nearby the farming village of Lower Dunsford, with a population of 70, was cut off by five feet of flood water.

In Oxfordshire Mr Peter Gough, aged 60, a lock keeper, fell into his lock at Shiplake while trying to free a large piece of wood stuck in the weir on Sunday. He was swept away by the fast flowing river and navigation officials from the Thames Conservancy fear he may have been carried several miles down the river.

Mr Gough, who is married with three children, has been lock keeper at Shiplake for 26 years.

Another man is believed to have drowned yesterday further upstream. Two thieves were disturbed while carrying out a raid on the Oakley Court Hotel, Windsor Road, Bray, Berkshire, and more than an hour later a man was arrested on the Brighthelm estate, Slough.

He was soaking wet and claimed to have swum across the Thames with a friend who had not reached the other side.

The man is helping the police with their inquiries and a spokesman for Thames Valley police said that it was possible that the second man may have drowned.

In the West country, floods began to recede but the Tewkesbury and Cheltenham areas of Gloucestershire were still badly hit. The Severn Trent Water Authority is keeping a close watch on the river level and hoping for a dry spell before high spring tides around January 11.

The River Avon flooded acres of land around Christchurch, Dorset, and RSPCA officers toured the area to find marooned livestock.

Weather forecast, back page

## Penlee fund climbs to almost £2m

From Craig Seton Exeter

The Charity Commission may today issue a request that the £1.9m Penlee lifeboat disaster fund should be treated as non-charitable, so that it can be fully distributed to the dependants of the eight Cornish lifeboatmen who lost their lives two weeks ago.

Treating the fund in that way is one of the clearest options open to the trustees of the extraordinarily successful appeal for the dependants in the wake of the lifeboat tragedy which created five widows and left 12 children fatherless.

The fund was launched by Penwith District Council and some of its trustees will meet the Charity Commission in London today in an attempt to avoid an apparent commitment under charity law that only the "reasonable needs" of the dependants can be met from the fund if it is declared to be charitable.

At today's meeting the trustees will have Lord Goodman as their adviser.

According to Mr Andrew Phillips, a solicitor and charity law expert, the trustees should not fear that opting for a non-charitable status for the fund would attract capital transfer tax or income tax.

Assumptions that a private fund would be heavily taxed are wrong, he said yesterday, and added that the appeal for money had always made clear that the cash raised was intended for the dependants of the lost men, and not a wider cause.

They were delighted that Sir Michael Bavers, QC, the Attorney General, had given an assurance that if the law was found to be an "an ass" the Cabinet would consider legislation to change it.

Yesterday donations for the fund, which is separate from a local fishermen's fund which has already raised more than £250,000, leapt to £1.9m.

In Cornwall yesterday angry callers blocked telephone lines as the legal wrangling over the fund slowed down the flow of public donations. Bank staff at Falmouth, where the official appeal is being handled, were inundated with calls from people upset that the taxman might claim a large slice of the money.

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## A man of impartial, unflinching style

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Others say his way is brave and honest.

At any rate the result has been impartial. He has attracted fire from widely differing factions.

At a rally in November, at Newry, where thousands of the so-called "loyalist" Third Force paraded, the Rev Ian Paisley drew one of the loudest cheers of the night when he demanded of Mr Hermon as then was: "For God's sake, go."

The chief constable had said: "No republican or loyalist paramilitary organisation or any private force acting outside the law will be permitted to usurp the authority of the police or the Army."

In December he was replying to criticism from spokesmen for Northern Ireland's minority parties, including a call for his resignation. He was attempting to clarify parts of a letter he wrote which the Official Union-

As Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Sir John Hermon believes in discipline, propriety and professional standards. They are qualities which helped to bring him the reward of a high honour in the New Year's Honours.

Publicly, at least, he speaks with the uncompromising certainty of a man without doubts. The trouble is that so many other people of sharply different viewpoints in Ulster do too.

Fudging the issue is not his way. Unlike his quietly spoken predecessor, Sir Kenneth Newman, Sir John does not lay trails for his pursuers down the labyrinthine paths of academic argument.

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## Rift in Ulster police ranks

## Union chief quits 'to save RUC'

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

A few hours after publication, the Rev Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist MP for Antrim, North, declared that it had never been suggested that there should be a rival force to the RUC.

"That being so, I wish to take the only honourable course open to me on this issue by resigning as chairman of the federation," he said.

In his letter to Mr Wright, Sir John said that discussion on the extra force was "manifestly improper and highly damaging to the RUC, and in doing so the federation undoubtedly exceeded its remit."

"I am dismayed," Sir John wrote, "that some central committee members should have so little confidence in their own force and their own comrades as to propose the formation of another force."

This, taken in conjunction with the statements attributed to various members in discussion, revealed a defeatist attitude which in my view does a grave injustice to the force, which is so deeply and courageously committed to the defeat of terrorism.

The discussion as a whole was irrational and potentially disruptive of the efforts of the force. It could only have the effect of undermining morale and giving encouragement to the terrorist objective of destabilising the community.

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## Youth 'gave bombing lessons to children'

## From Our Correspondent Liverpool

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Mr O'Donoghue denies seven charges, including, from July's Tottenham riots, including arson, possessing, offensive weapons and making an affray.

Mr Davies said that Mr O'Donoghue had been seen throwing bricks and Molotov cocktails at police and organising youths to throw stones. He had also been directing young children aged 10 and 11 in the handling of petrol bombs and had been seen setting fire to a Mini car.

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### City fears grant loss of £30m

Manchester faces a cash crisis because of the £6m cut in the Government's rate support grant, our Manchester Correspondent writes. Today the city council's budget resources sub-committee will be told that to achieve the Government's spending target of £230.3m in the coming financial year will require cuts of at least £35m, and the council would still forfeit the £6m grant.

The government's figures take no account of inflation, the council claims, and because the 1982/83 budget is estimated at £265m, after allowing for inflation grant loss in real terms is believed to be nearer £30m.

Such a loss would mean a rate increase of 33 per cent, raising the present £2.05 in the pound above £2.50, excluding any additional county council precept levied next April, the subcommittee says.

### Joint hunt for bombers

Detectives from Wales, the West Midlands, Warwickshire and the City of London are to meet this week to pool their information about the series of bomb attacks by Welsh extremists.

Bombs were planted at Birmingham, Stratford-on-Avon and London last week-end and it is hoped the meeting will produce a lead in the hunt for the members of the Workers Army of the Welsh Republic, who claimed responsibility for two of the bombs.

### Police refuse to pay £4,976 bill

Police in mid-Wales have refused to pay a £4,976 bill for repairs to a level crossing which was badly damaged during a high-speed chase last June.

The Dyfed Powys police authority was told yesterday that police asked for the crossing gates to be closed and a stolen car they were chasing crashed into them, killing the driver.

The police denied liability because it was not one of their vehicles that damaged the gates, but the authority has offered British Rail £352 for materials.

### Streaker gets job offers

Miss Erica Roe, who ran topless on the pitch at Twickenham on Saturday, has not been dismissed from her bookshop job after all. Her employer, Mr Frank Westwood, decided yesterday to tear up the dismissal notice he had written and let Miss Roe, aged 24, stay on at the shop in Petersfield, Hampshire.

But Miss Roe has been offered a £250-a-day job modelling double-breasted jackets and suits for the Harry Fenton chain of men's wear shops. The job has been done by Kevin Keegan, the England football captain, whose advertising contract has ended. She has also been offered photographic modelling work.

### A mugger's victim

Miss Agnes Martin, aged 74, badly bruised and with two black eyes, after being mugged by a man near her home in St Michael's Road, Brixton, South London. The thief pushed her to the ground and stole her handbag.

### Sex shop paint daubers in court

Two women who protested against the setting up of a sex shop by daubing it with red paint were conditionally discharged for 12 months when they appeared in court at Greenwich yesterday. Lesley Wood, aged 30, of New Cross, south-east London, and Sue Duerdort, aged 23, of Brockley, south-east London, both pleaded guilty to causing criminal damage to the shop, in Lewisham High Street.

### Ennals in hospital

Mr David Ennals, Labour MP for Norwich North, was admitted to Westminster Hospital, London, yesterday, suffering from a recurrence of thrombosis, which three years ago forced him to walk with a stick.



### Mysterious explosion wrecks pub

A publican escaped injury yesterday when his public house, Emerald Inn (above), at Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, was reduced to a pile of rubble by a mysterious explosion. The licensee Mr Robert Glover aged 52, staggered out of the debris and was taken to Burton District Hospital suffering from shock and burns but was not badly hurt. His wife was staying with relatives in Leicester at the time.

The licensee's pet parrot escaped unharmed, as did Mr Glover's pet dog a hamster and a rabbit. Gas board officials began an investigation immediately after the blast and three streets surrounding the inn were closed to traffic. Mr Derek Richards aged 19, who lives next door to the inn, in Cross Street, said: "I woke up with a bang and found my kitchen had been wrecked. There was damage in the bathroom and cracks in the walls."

I had just switched on the lights when the explosion lifted my bed up. The public house had only recently been renovated.

### 'Economic quackery' criticized

By George Clark

Economists who produce gloomy forecasts from their "academic hothouses" are attacked by Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, yesterday when he supported Mrs Margaret Thatcher's new year message, in which she stated that the worst of the economic depression is over.

He told the Milford Haven Round Table that the favourite subject for these twentieth-century soothsayers was unemployment trends.

"The forecasts are made by men and women who seem to be totally immune to the trends they so gloomily and confidently foresee, carrying out their work with all the confidence of those who know their own jobs appear secure because of the gullibility of their fellow citizens."

The latest example, published last week, gave a gloomy forecast of economic and political events for a decade. "The economic quackery that this type of long-term forecasting involves survives only because none of us can remember what was said by whom years earlier."

Industrialists were making sense of some of the forecasts. It was beyond the imagination of economists in the academic hothouses that down-to-earth industrialists and engineers of the Davy Llewellyn group might achieve a £125m contract to build a steel plant in India against

the toughest international competition.

"How many of them forecast a year ago that, in addition, British industry would win a contract for building another £1 billion project for a power station in Hongkong, the £330m Sicarsa steel mill; the £500m of contract work in Nigeria; a new bank building in Hong-kong worth £250m; the transpacific cable, worth £170m; the new university building in Oman, worth £150m; the gas storage plant in Abu Dhabi, worth £140m; plant for the Soviet gas pipeline worth £100m or an Iraqi contract worth £100m?"

In the last two or three years far more companies had opened up than had shut down.

### £26m fraud charges in kidnap case

A former member of the late Shah of Iran's secret police who is accused of kidnapping three Iranian diplomats was further charged in London yesterday with conspiring to defraud his country's Government of £26m.

The diplomats were kidnapped as part of a plot to swindle the Iranian Government in a bogus \$52m arms deal. It was stated at Marylebone Magistrate's Court. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

At an earlier hearing the court heard that 30 crates of tin were to be delivered to Iran in place of 6,000 anti-tank missiles it was expecting for use in its war with Iraq.

Benhan Nodjouni, aged 36, a company director, of Burwood Place, Paddington, London, was yesterday described as one of three main conspirators. Describing the case as a "mistaken belief that it is all sociology."

Sir Keith has singled out social science research for retrenchment, while other scientific specialities are to be supported in 1982-83 at roughly constant levels.

The research council's budget is pegged at £21m for the next financial year. It is likely to mean 200 fewer postgraduate training places in social sciences.

### Conservationists applaud Lakeland decision

From John Chartres, Kendal

Members of the Lake District National Park special planning board all expressed pleasure at the decision.

Mr Michael Taylor, the national park officer, said he was delighted with it, and paid tribute to the associated organizations, many of them voluntary and with limited financial resources, who had taken sides with his board in its opposition to both schemes.

Simultaneously the National Trust, the biggest landowner in the Lake District, which had supported the opposition, issued a formal statement expressing "very great pleasure" at Mr Heseltine's decision. Mr Lawrence Harwood, the north west regional director, said he hoped the minister's directive would "stand as a precedent for the future."

Mr Harwood added: "The trust is of course sympathetic to the needs of industry in the north-west, as well as the preservation of the environment."

Kendal yesterday members of the development control committee of the

### Keith Joseph is mistaken, researcher says

From yesterday's later editions

A member of the Social Science Research Council accused Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, of declaring war on social research in the mistaken belief that it is all sociology.

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### Two dead in siege

A man aged 22, separated from his wife, shot himself dead in a council house in Corby, Northamptonshire, after another man, aged 21, had been found dead. Police had besieged the house for five hours.

### Whitehall brief

## Omens better for radical reforms

By Peter Hennessy

"Wars," Professor Arthur Marwick once observed, "are like weddings, essentially extravagant and unnecessary, but a great stimulant in a convention-bound society."

Nowhere is Marwick's Law more applicable than in the British Civil Service, which when it comes to convention-bound societies stands alone. The last person to reform it successfully was that well known public administrator, Adolf Hitler.

For under the duress of total war and mobilization of the nation between 1939 and 1945 Whitehall was obliged to improve and to admit outsiders - City men, businessmen, doctors, even journalists - to help it to run a siege economy at home and achieve the defeat of fascism abroad.

Sadly, when peace returned the wartime temporaries disappeared and recruitment reverted to the finding of young, university trained talent without outside expertise, and the moulding of it, to an essentially late-nineteenth-century design, over a career lifetime of 30 years.

Since this is my last "Whitehall brief," perhaps consider is the chances of a real, lasting reform of the Civil Service in the 1980s of a kind not seen since Glad-

stone and Lowe reshaped it in the 1870s.

Twenty years after the great Northcote Trevelyan report of 1853 they completed the rooting out of duds and placements, turning the upper end of public administration into an early job creation scheme for the best and brightest from the ancient universities.

Ever since, radical reform of the bureaucracy has proved remarkably difficult to achieve. Aristocracies of talent, of which the senior Civil Service undoubtedly is an example, are far harder to shift than aristocracies of birth.

But despite the defeatism that debilitates public life at present the omens for change are good. Sir Derek Rayner, a businessman with insider experience has shown what a small team can do, with the crucial backing of the Prime Minister, in furthering efficiency and economy in the central bureaucracy.

Most of the general preconditions for a wider reform, embracing recruitment, training, accountability, mobility and professionalism, outlined by Dr Richard Chapman and Dr John Greenaway in their illuminating study, *The Dynamics of Administrative Reform*, are present. Back-

case for fashioning Whitehall into a more effective instrument for transmitting ministerial will into policy.

Even that favourite of the senior Civil Service, Mrs Shirley Williams, has described their institution as "a beautifully designed and effective braking mechanism."

Finally, a small but significant number of Britain's "permanent politicians," as James Macgregor Burns called the senior bureaucrats, men and women in their late thirties and early forties, have become progressively convinced that reform is needed, that the old, decorous private world of Sir Edward Bridges and Sir Norman Brook cannot be allowed to rotter on into the next century.

As yet there is no consensus about the configuration of a Northcote Trevelyan for the 1980s. That is a matter for stage two of the process. But one thing is clear. The power of the Civil Service to shape policy will be high on the agenda next time and cannot be excluded, as it was when Sir Harold Wilson prohibited the Fulton committee of 1966-68 from looking at "the basic relationship between ministers and civil servants."

*The Dynamics of Administrative Reform* (Croom Helm, £14.95).

## Saudis deny setting terms for recognition of Israel

By Our Foreign Staff

Saudi Arabia has officially denied published remarks attributed to Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Foreign Minister, that the kingdom was prepared to recognize Israel under certain conditions.

"There is absolutely no truth in what has been attributed to his Highness about the kingdom's recognition of Israel," the Saudi Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Sunday night.

The New York Times correspondent, Leslie Gelb, reporting from Riyadh, said on Sunday that the Saudi Foreign Minister had said in an interview on December 30 that in return for Israel's recognition of Palestinian rights and the return of occupied Arab lands, his Government was prepared "to accept" Israel.

"Asked why Israel should risk returning the occupied lands when Arab nations and

Palestinians were not willing to recognize Israel explicitly," Mr Gelb said, "the Foreign Minister, Prince Saud al-Faisal, answered: 'It cannot respond to the present day situation based on what Hitler did in World War II. Arab countries did not accept Israel before, in 1948. The change has taken some doing. There has been a tremendous shift on the part of Arab countries to accept this situation.'"

"He said this was the meaning of Crown Prince Fahd's recent proposal 'confirming the right of the countries of the region to live in peace.' Until the Saudi's had declined to say whether the world countries specially included Israel."

The Saudi Statement, carried by the official Saudi press agency said: "The Prince in his interview had stressed the primary need for

Israeli recognition of legitimate Palestinian rights and the Palestinian right of setting up a state on their usurped lands."

"The important point in Prince Saud's statement concerned Israel's recognition of Palestinian rights and withdrawal from occupied Arab lands. Response to these two legitimate conditions could bring peace to the area."

Last August, Saudi Crown Prince Fahd announced an eight-point Middle East peace plan, the seventh point of which offered implicit recognition of Israel. But Saudi leaders have carefully avoided being explicit about the seventh point.

Arab radicals have opposed the plan because of the seventh point, which also caused the break up of an Arab summit conference in Morocco last November.

## Egyptian who supervised purges is transferred

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, Jan 4

President Mubarak today swore in a new Cabinet after dismissing the economic advisers who had guided Egypt's open door economic policy.

There are 12 new ministers including Mr Muhammad Abdul-Fattah Ibrahim, the chief economic policy maker and former Central Bank governor. He replaced Dr Abdul-Razzak Abdul-Meguid as Deputy Prime Minister for Finance and Economy.

In another major change, Mr Hassan Abu Basma, the former head of the State Security Force, replaced Mr Nabawi Ismail as Interior Minister. Mr Ismail, who supervised the crackdowns on Mr Sadat's opponents before the assassination and on Muslim extremists afterwards, was named Deputy Prime Minister for Services and Local Government.

The new Egyptian Cabinet in Prime Minister: Dr Fawzi Mohabeddin. Deputy Prime Minister: Mr Muhammad Abdul-Fattah Ibrahim. Ministers: Mr Hassan Abu Basma, Mr Muhammad Abdul-Razzak Abdul-Meguid, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin, Mr Fawzi Mohabeddin.

## US 'to veto Golan sanctions'

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Jan 4

A senior Israeli official claimed today that Washington had privately promised to veto any attempt by the United Nations Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel when the debate on the annexation of the Golan Heights resumes tomorrow.

The debate came after Israel's flat refusal to comply with last month's United Nations demand that it should immediately rescind its takeover of the strategic Syrian plateau overlooking the sea of Galilee which Israel has occupied since the 1967 war.

Israeli sources maintain that the United States commitment came after a specific request from Jerusalem. It is being cited as an indication that the United States Administration are in favour of Israel's annexation, which has been proving fast after the sharp deterioration caused by the annexation, which has been widely criticized.

Last month Israel formally dismissed its "preposterous" United Nations demands that it should nullify the annexation. Recounting the series of wars which Israel has fought with Syria and the Syrian Government's refusal to negotiate peace, the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* reported that the Security Council should have passed a resolution which ignores this background.

Today, on the eve of the Security Council debate, the respected Hebrew newspaper, *Haaretz*, carried a front page report by its military correspondent claiming that there were signs of increased Syrian army preparedness in the Golan area in response to Israel's recent mobilization there.

## Tornadoes and snow kill 300

From Our Own Correspondent, New York, Jan 4

Much of the United States was in the grip of appalling weather conditions today. More than 300 deaths have been attributed to snow, tornadoes and torrential rain in the past four days.

A series of tornadoes partly demolished several dozen houses in Mississippi, abruptly ending well over a year of respite from the storms. Mississippi has been the state worst affected by tornadoes since records began in 1916, and 1,170 people have died since then.

The National Guard today was protecting 20 houses in Newton, Mississippi, from looters after a tornado ripped off roofs and smashed down walls. A tornado watch was in effect in Alabama, southern Arkansas and most of Louisiana.

In eastern Maine 20,000 people spent the weekend in near freezing conditions without power after a snowstorm brought down power lines. Snow was falling at the rate of 2in to 3in an hour today in Kansas City, which was already under a deep blanket of snow.

Nearly 1,000 stranded motorists took shelter in halls and churches when snow cut off the main routes out of San Francisco. In the Colorado Rockies, already under 5ft of snow, another blizzard brought more avalanches and more deaths. Thousands of school children were told to stay at home.

Eight people returning from a holiday weekend in Florida were killed when a private aircraft crashed into a swamp in fog and drizzle in Richmond, Virginia.

## EEC boats banned by Norway

Oslo—Norway has banned the European Community from fishing inside its 200 mile economic zone in retaliation for the EEC's failure to put into operation a fisheries agreement negotiated last month.

In a protest Note handed to the EEC Commission in Brussels, the Norwegian Government said that the ban came into effect from last Friday and would remain in force until the EEC implemented the agreement which presupposes Norwegian fishing rights in EEC waters.

The Note also said that Norway would not allow EEC boats to fish in Norwegian waters until the Community passed the necessary regulations guaranteeing reciprocal fishing rights and that the Norwegian Government reserved its right to renegotiate the fisheries agreement.

The bilateral agreement between the EEC and Norway is renegotiated annually but ratification has been delayed this year because of French insistence on simultaneous agreement on fishing rights in Faroese waters (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes):

Details of the allowable catches for 1982 have, however, been agreed subject to ratification. Under the agreement, the EEC would be allowed to take a maximum of 34,000 tonnes of cod, 148,700 tonnes of haddock and 130,000 tonnes of plaice. Nearly all the cod and a substantial part of the haddock is normally taken by British fishermen.

## Antelope goes nurse to death

East London, South Africa—A nurse bent over a prostrate antelope, preparing to administer a sedative, when the animal suddenly raised its head and pierced the nurse's throat with a horn.

Miss Linda Turner, aged 20, died before she could be moved from her family's farm to hospital. Friends said that the animal had been injured in a fight with another antelope.

## Admiral to head Greek forces

Athens—Vice Admiral Theodoros Deyannis has been promoted to admiral and will head the Greek joint chiefs of staff, replacing General Agamemnon Gratsias, who is retiring. Admiral Deyannis previously served as commander of the Greek fleet.

The National Superior Defence Council which announced the promotion, is also reviewing the entire Army high command.

## Boat outing ends in disaster

Jakarta—A seaside outing to see "a big strange fish" ended in disaster when at least 24 people drowned after their pleasure boat capsized and sank, when they all rushed to one side, officials said.

Thirteen people were rescued after the boat went down off the coast of Probolinggo, about 450 miles east of here. Police said that the boat was taking people to see what was believed to be a whale.

## China and Vietnam to free prisoners

Peking—China and Vietnam will exchange prisoners on January 15, before the New Year, the New China News Agency reported.

China plans to free seven prisoners and four Vietnamese fishermen in response to a Vietnamese release, a few days ago, of 11 Chinese, the agency said.

## New ambassador

Paris—Mr Bernard Vernier-Palliez, who, until recently, was head of the Renault car factory, has been appointed French ambassador to Washington, the Foreign Ministry announced.



## Inside Poland

## Divisions could destroy Communist Party

From Brian Mooney of Reuters, Warsaw, Jan 4

Poland's military rulers are searching for a policy and contending with opposition three weeks after taking power. The country is outwardly calm but none of the problems the military sought to solve has yet been seriously tackled.

The political infighting and instability that in part overtook the military takeover remains as fierce as before. The economy shows no signs of improving and the dilemma over what to do with Solidarity, the independent union organization, grows daily more acute.

Well-informed party sources say the military takeover has exacerbated divisions between liberals and hardliners in the Communist Party who both appear to have been taken under the wings of the generals.

In the days immediately following the takeover, hardliners appeared to be in the ascendant but the picture modified later as prominent Communists associated with the reforms of the Solidarity period began to re-emerge.

Diplomats analysing the actions of the military authorities and their treatment of Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the union organization, immediately after the takeover believe they had banked on separating him from radicals in the leadership and talking him into playing a role in national reconstruction.

If the military banked on

getting firm support from the church they have been disappointed. Instead they are receiving increasingly harsh admonishments, the latest from Pope John's homily in St Peter's on New Year's Day, in which he called for the survival of Solidarity, was not broadcast in his native Poland.

Poles are beginning to wonder how long the military can hold out without making some substantial gesture. There are reports that the Army wants to pull back to its barracks as early as mid-January, leaving a chastened Sejm (parliament) to pass legislation maintaining most of the restrictive measures imposed under martial law.

These reports, which are quoted by western defence attaches, run counter to a generally held belief that the moment the military relaxes its grip Poles will again come out in open opposition to the way their country is run.

Western analysts say the military and ultimately the civil authorities who would be left in command after martial law is lifted have got to make a substantial offering to appease Poles if they are to avert another, possibly catastrophic, national revolt.

The problem is what can they give their fellow Poles. There is virtually no prospect of the economy improving in the next few years, these analysts believe. So, despite the extra food deliveries in

recent weeks, there are no hopes of buying off the people with higher living standards.

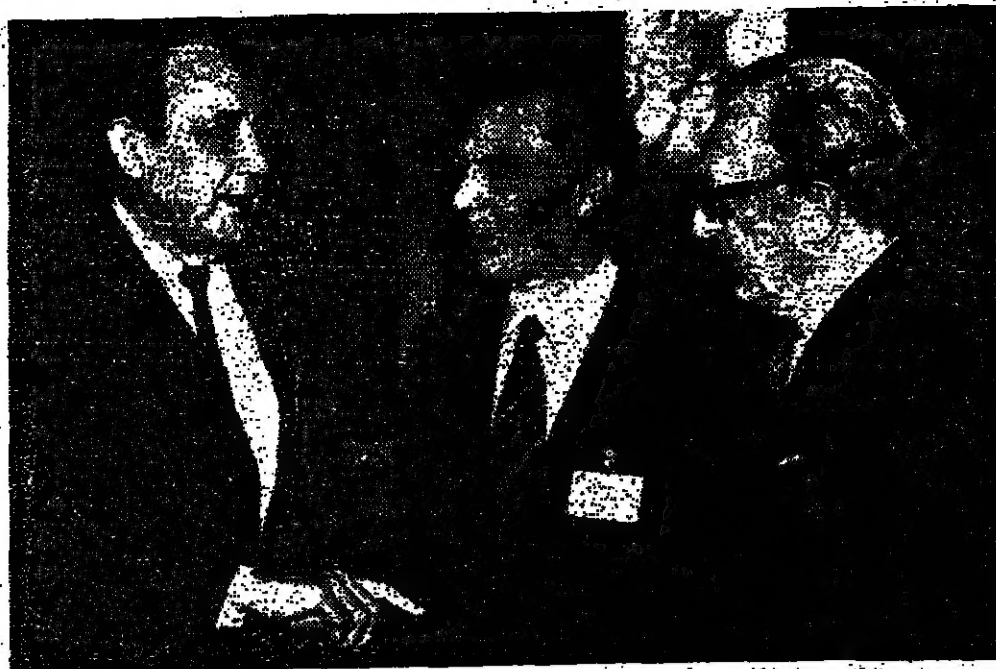
Neither can many political concessions be made without going back to the original Solidarity experiment of allowing Poles to form their own independent movement.

Diplomats and Polish intellectuals still willing to talk to foreign journalists speak of the authorities creating a Christian democratic or socialist party to absorb the mass of Catholic believers who cannot subscribe to the officially atheistic Communist Party.

Any new party on those lines would have to be based on the acceptance of Communist supremacy and would be unacceptable to the majority. There is also talk of the Communist Party ceasing to exist in its present form.

A new party, smaller, chaster and ideologically more pure could emerge from the wreckage of the last few years. This might become imperative if the authorities went ahead with their threat to oust Mr Edward Gierk, former First Secretary of the Communist Party, on trial.

□ Vienna: Mr Maciej Szarynski, Poland's former broadcasting chief, who goes on trial in Warsaw tomorrow, faces charges which include misappropriating state property worth more than 3.75m zlotys (C\$5,000) and accepting bribes. Warsaw radio reported tonight.—Reuter.



Polish debate: Herr Genscher, Mr Leo Tindemans and Lord Carrington in Brussels.

## Reports of return to work disputed

By Our Foreign Staff

The Polish authorities claimed yesterday that factories and offices in Warsaw were operating normally on the first working day of the new year and that the country was free of strikes. But other reports reaching the West suggested that production was seriously restricted.

Only half the workers at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk had been reinstated when work resumed yesterday, according to reliable local sources. The purge and "verification" of workers at all levels in the shipyards was continuing, it was reported.

Industrial production in the

country as a whole was still only 50 to 60 per cent of capacity, according to independent estimates. One Western trade specialist suggested that martial law has cost Poland between \$50m and \$100m (£25m to £50m) a day.

Other indicators confirm that Polish industry is seriously hampered by shortages of raw materials and components, by communications difficulties, as well as a failure to make decisions in the vacuum by military rule.

The reports add that there had been an increase in military activity on the streets of Warsaw, in anticipation of the

return to work yesterday. A column of armoured personnel carriers drove up the main avenue, Marshal Kowaska Street, yesterday morning, in a show of strength not seen since the early days of martial law.

Three hundred inmates at the Bialoleka jail in Warsaw have issued a protest at the marked deterioration in conditions since Christmas.

Articles in the Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu and the armed forces paper Zbrojna Wolnosci said yesterday that there could be no place in a socialist system for Solidarity in its form before the military takeover.

## Germans demand action by Warsaw

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 4

The West German Government today called for "decisions as well as words" to show that the Polish military regime intends to pursue the course of reform and renewal it promised.

Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and acting head of government during the absence in America of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, said that Bonn was waiting for "clear signs" that the Polish leaders really meant to fulfil their assurances about reforms.

These "signals" included the release of detainees, the lifting of martial law and the resumption of the Government's dialogue with the Catholic Church and the free trade union Solidarity. With-out these the regime's assurances would not be credible, he said.

Herr Genscher was speaking in a radio interview after receiving the reply from General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, to Herr Schmidt's recent letter.

A Polish gesture could have helped Herr Schmidt to convince President Reagan and his sceptical fellow-Europeans that this "soft" line was more like a realistic assessment of the situation than a policy of sanctions and confrontation.

□ Washington: On the eve of the talks here between President Reagan and Herr Schmidt, Vice-President George Bush today tried to play down the sharp differences between the

Western allies on action to be taken over Poland. (Our Own Correspondent writes).

President Reagan, Mr Bush said, felt very strongly about this suppression of freedom in Poland and just because the allies were not in total agreement on what should be done did not mean the United States should stand idly by.

□ Paris: France will not sign any new trade contracts with Poland for the time being, but will maintain deliveries under existing agreements, sources in Paris said today. France is due to deliver 1.2 million tons of food to Poland in 1982-83, about a quarter of this had been supplied by the time of the military takeover.

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## Doubts cast on Polish ability to pay debts

From Peter Newman, Brussels, Jan 4

Reports that Poland has been able to gather together the \$350m (about £150m) needed to complete the agreement to reschedule its debts that fell due last year, met mounting scepticism among European bankers today in the absence of clear indication of fresh payments from Warsaw.

While bankers are convinced that the Polish administration wants to fulfil its obligations, they noted that the reports that funds were now available appeared to be based on flimsy sources and hedged with qualifications.

Offering hopes that the reports might prove correct, one source said that where Poland could have obtained the funds, increasingly Western bankers seem to be losing faith in the Soviet Union as a prompt supplier of hard currency to enable the Poles to meet their 1981 debt commitments.

The reports appeared to be based on remarks attributed to Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the Polish Deputy Prime Minister, during his visit to Bonn last Thursday and the apparent dispatch of a telex message from Bank Handlowy of Poland to the Creditanstalt Bankverein of Vienna the previous day, promising a "substantial" but unspecified payment of the outstanding debt to the bank.

In Vienna today a spokesman for the Creditanstalt told The Times that the report about the telex message had been based on a "vague" source and was being sent last week, the message was one dispatched by the Bank Handlowy on December 17, addressed to 20 or so leading Western banks in a vain attempt to obtain bridging finance to allow Poland to pay its debts at the end of the year.

As for Mr Rakowski in Bonn, he merely repeated assurances that Poland would pay its debts without apparently disclosing that it had no money to do so.

But the underlying grounds for scepticism lie in bankers' assessments of how the Soviet Union views the prospect of halting the Polish Government. West German bankers have been told privately by Soviet sources in Bonn that Moscow has no wish to "throw good money after bad" in the case of Poland.

The Polish crisis is hurting the Russians financially at a time when their hard currency reserves have been declining sharply. According to Central European banking sources, Soviet deposits in Western banks fell in the last three years from \$8,500m to only \$3,400m in November 1981, and it is believed that they could now be less than \$2,000m.

The Soviet Union has already given a considerable amount of "fraternal" aid to the Poles. One figure puts the recent total at \$1,400m of which \$600m were in hard currency and the rest in "hard goods" such as oil, food and fuel, which the Poles could either use themselves or sell for hard currency in the West.

Yet the Russians also need hard currency on a growing scale to cover their own requirements. Grain purchases in 1981 are thought to have absorbed about \$10,000m.

□ Poland has resumed some interest payments to Western banks on its \$16,000m commercial debt. (Our Banking Correspondent writes).

The extent of the payments is unknown because they are made individually to the banks but they are believed to be modest. "They are like crumbs coming in in dribs and drabs", one Western banker said.

The latest developments will be discussed at a meeting of eight of Poland's main banking creditors in London on Thursday.

Despite the uncertainty, work has continued on drawing up the documentation for the rescheduling agreement.

## Foreign ministers demand an end to repression

The final communiqué of the meeting of EEC foreign ministers in Brussels is as follows:

1. The EEC utterly disapproves of the development of the situation in Poland.

2. They have noted the declarations of the Polish leadership of its intention to maintain national independence and to re-establish in the near future liberty and the process of reform, as well as assuming the dialogue with the various elements of the Polish nation. Unhappily the EEC must note today that contrary to these declarations, what has taken place has not been dialogue but repression, bringing in its train violations of the Helsinki Final Act, the United Nations Charter and the universal declaration of human rights.

3. The EEC therefore, appeals urgently to the Polish authorities to end as soon as possible the state of martial law, to release those arrested and to restore a general dialogue with the church and Solidarity.

4. The significance of these grave events extends beyond Poland itself. The inability of the system in Eastern Europe to accept the modifications necessary to meet the legitimate aspirations of the people is such as to endanger public confidence in the possibility of cooperative links with the East, and thus seriously to affect international relations.

5. In this context the EEC notes with concern and disapproval the serious external pressure and the campaign directed by the USSR and other Eastern European countries against the effort for renewal in Poland.

6. This already grave situation would be further aggravated if it led to an open intervention by the Warsaw Pact. For this reason the EEC calls for a solemn warning against any such intervention.

7. The EEC is deeply in sympathy with the Polish people and is willing to continue the direct humanitarian aid to them.

8. The EEC takes note of the economic measures taken by the United States Government with regard to the USSR. The EEC will undertake in this context close and positive consultations with the United States Government and with the governments of other Western countries in order to define what decisions will best serve their common objectives, and to avoid any step which could compromise their respective actions.

9. Developments in Poland constitute a grave violation of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act. The EEC therefore, considers that the Madrid conference should discuss them as soon as possible at ministerial level. The EEC will make approaches to the neutral and non-aligned states to propose an early resumption of the Madrid meeting.

10. The EEC will work in the United Nations and its agencies for a denunciation of violations of human rights and acts of violence.

11. Other measures will be considered as the situation in Poland develops, in particular measures concerning the EEC's economic assistance to Poland, and measures concerning the Community's common policy with regard to the USSR. In addition, the EEC will examine the question of further food aid to Poland.

12. The EEC has called on the Polish authorities, both nationally and through the presidency, to lift the abortion and unacceptable restrictions which have been placed on the work of "embassies", representatives of the media, air services and other communications in Poland.

13. The EEC notes that what can be done to alleviate the situation of Poles outside Poland who do not wish to return to their country under present circumstances.

# These days, you've just got to look at the bright side.

There's no better way to spend this cold, dreary winter than watching Thames Television's terrific line-up of programmes.

For a start, on our light entertainment side is *Let There Be Love*. Paul Eddington stars as a confirmed bachelor, who to the bewilderment of his best friend Henry McGee, decides to marry the beautiful and intriguing Nanette Newman appearing in her first ever comedy role.

There are plenty more laughs in store with *Don't Rock The Boat*. Nigel Davenport succeeds in disrupting his well-ordered all male family boat-building business when he brings home a showgirl, the vivacious Sheila White and proposes marriage.

And of course old favourites Benny Hill, Jim Davidson and Shelley return to keep you laughing. While Eric and Ernie take a revealing look at some of the great comedy duos of all time in a one hour special with Alan Whicker.

When the laughter dies down, relax and enjoy our first rate drama season. Laurence Olivier and Alan Bates star in *Voyage Round My Father*. It's the true inspiring life story of the author, John Mortimer's relationship with his tragically blinded father.

Something else you'll be sure not to miss is that devilish double-act Dennis Waterman and George Cole back in an all new action-packed series of *Minder*.

Of course, no Thames winter would be complete without a fabulous selection of films. The season starts with a brand new Best seller, *The Star Maker*, starring Rock Hudson and Suzanne Pleshette. The compelling drama of a Hollywood Director with a unique style for turning beautiful faces into overnight sensations.

Amongst the great feature films to look forward to is *Ryan's Daughter*. Set in rural southern Ireland, Sarah Miles, Sir John Mills, Robert Mitchum and Trevor Howard star in David Lean's Academy Award-winning motion picture.

And two of Hollywood's biggest names Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford star as the ill-matched lovers in the British Television Film Premiere of *The Way We Were*.

This is just the start of a great entertainment season ahead. So cheer up! Isn't it good to know that there is a bright side this winter?





## Catalogue of blunders aided Rovigo jail break

From Peter Nichols Rome, Jan 4

In spite of its serious embarrassment, the Italian Government must today be looking with some admiration at the masterly execution of the Red Brigades plan which snatched four women terrorists from Rovigo prison.

The technique of springing the terrorists is seen here as an example for a terrorist's manual. First, a small car loaded with explosives was parked under the prison wall at a point invisible from the guard towers. Then a group of at least four men began to shoot at the guard towers.

The four women inside the prison were having their exercise in a small courtyard. On hearing the shots, which were a prearranged signal, they overpowered a woman guard, and took a key which allowed them to leave the courtyard and reach the main wall.

At this point, the explosive charge was fired and a hole was blown in the wall. The four women, who include Susanna Ronconi, one of the most dangerous figures in the left-wing terrorist movement, simply walked through the smoking gap and escaped by car while the men continued to fire on the watch towers.

They had chosen the ideal moment. The centre of Rovigo was deserted because of the twin attractions of a football and a rugby match. A second wall which would have made the prison more secure had been begun but left uncompleted. A passer-by was killed by the explosion but all the terrorists escaped.

They disappeared without a trace despite the fact that Rovigo is close to Verona which is heavily policed after the kidnapping of Brigadier-General James Dozier of the

United States Army there last month.

MFs and the press want clear-cut answers from the Government to a series of questions. Why, for instance, had these four women terrorists, been recently transferred to Rovigo together, and placed in an ancient building with comparatively little security? Why had indications of a projected escape attempt been ignored a month and a half ago?

Verona: Signor Pasquale Zappone, the head of Verona police, today told reporters that on December 16, the day before General Dozier was kidnapped, an attempt was made to abduct another American, General Wilson Cooney, the deputy commander of the Fifth Allied Tactical Air Force base at Vicenza, 40 miles east of here. He was not home and his wife refused to answer the door. — Reuters.

## Prisoners of conscience



### Uruguay: Maria Espinola

By Caroline Moorehead

A student at Montevideo University, Maria Mercedes Espinola Baruch, was arrested by the armed forces in June, 1977, and after a secret trial sentenced to eight years in prison for subversive association. Her trial was conducted on the basis of the 1972 Law of National Security which subject civilians to military jurisdiction.

At some point between her arrest and her secret trial, Maria Espinola "disappeared". Later it was revealed that she had been brutally tortured: suspended from her hair, given electric shocks to her mouth, forced to stand with heavy weights tied to her body and made to straddle a serrated bar.

According to a report that reached Amnesty International, she suffered serious and lasting spinal injuries from the torture, which have been aggravated by hard prison labour. Apparently she has been punished repeatedly for not working with "the required zeal" and placed in solitary confinement.

Uruguay is constantly under discussion by international human rights organizations for its widespread and well documented use of torture on political prisoners.

## Vigilance in S Korea as curfew ends

From Jacqueline Reditt Seoul, Jan 4

South Koreans will face the problem of getting home before curfew for the last time tonight. President Chun Doo-hwan has directed the Cabinet to lift the midnight to 4 a.m. curfew with effect from tomorrow except near the North Korean border and in other places vulnerable to invasion from North Korea.

The curfew was originally imposed by United States occupation troops at the end of the Second World War in the two main cities, Seoul and Pusan. During the Korean War 1950-53 it was extended and has covered most of the country for the past 30 years.

It has since become accepted and Koreans take for granted the mad dash home before midnight when pedestrians hurl themselves into the streets to flag down taxis, and drivers risk speeding fines in preference to a night in prison for violating the curfew.

The removal of the curfew is designed to encourage tourism and economic efficiency. It will also boost President Chun's image as a leader who successfully controlled the internal disturbances last year.

As a safeguard, however, all national police forces have been put on emergency duty and night traffic control checkpoints have been more than doubled.

Mr Suh Chung-hwa, the Home Minister, has ordered a concentration of police manpower in cities and has called for extra coastal vigilance to guard against infiltration from the North.

At the same time the Ministry of Education has announced that schoolchildren will no longer be compelled to wear school uniforms. "Compulsory head shaving and short hair have hampered the development of creativity", the ministry noted.

## Guerrillas attack border to isolate Thai town

From David Watts, Singapore, Jan 4

Malaysian communist guerrillas in southern Thailand have launched an offensive to isolate the town of Betong and destroy business in the lucrative period between Christmas and the Chinese New Year. Betong is at the tip of a salient that juts into Malaysia.

The guerrillas, part of a breakaway faction of the Communist Party of Malaysia, sought refuge in southern Thailand after the end of the Malayan emergency. They found invaluable assistance in their struggle against the Government in Kuala Lumpur. But faced with declining support and competition from the Thai Muslim Freedom Movement are trying a new tack.

The campaign began a few days before Christmas when the guerrillas believed to be a group of 40 to 60 opened fire on the Bukit Perapit customs and border post late one evening. Using automatic rifles, grenade launchers and home-made rockets they kept up a barrage of fire until 3am next day.

Since then offensive appears to have continued, though the last serious attack was on New Year's Eve, to halt the cross-border business between Malaysia and Betong. The town is an attraction for Malaysians wanting to escape the more puritanical atmosphere of their own country.

Malaysians have been crossing at the rate of a thousand a day. The guerrillas have been successful in creating an atmosphere of fear but have failed to force the Malaysians to close the border post and cut off Betong from Malaysia. They hope that would force Betong traders into increasing their protection payments or at least draw more of it away from the Pattani United Liberation Organization.



### Wife waits for missing golfer

Aurora Pijuan, estranged wife of Tomas Manotoc, the Filipino golfer missing since last Tuesday, speaks in Manila of her love for her husband. Mr Manotoc was last seen having dinner with Imee Marcos, daughter of the Philippines President. Mr Manotoc's brother said after a meeting with the military authorities that his hopes had improved that his brother was alive.

Manotoc, 35, was last seen having dinner with Imee Marcos, daughter of the Philippines President. Mr Manotoc's brother said after a meeting with the military authorities that his hopes had improved that his brother was alive.

## French divorce rate soars even for young couples

From Jonathan Fenby Paris, Jan 4

The French are getting divorced in sharply rising numbers at younger ages, and almost two-thirds of divorce proceedings are initiated by women. Professional men and executives have the highest divorce rate, while farmers and proprietors of businesses are the social group in which marriages are most likely to last.

Studies by two statistical and demographic organizations show the French divorce rate climbing through the 1970s, while the number of marriages, which peaked at almost 420,000 in 1972, was down to 340,000 at the end of the decade.

After remaining stable at around 34,000 a year between 1953 and 1963, the number of divorces rose to 40,000 in 1970, 60,000 in 1975 and an estimated 90,000 in 1979.

As the number of divorces rose in the wake of simplification of legal proceedings in 1975, so did the number of divorced people who remarried, though at a considerably slower rate. In 1979



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## 'Coup plot' men sought by Bahrain

Bahrain, Jan 4. Bahrain has given 12 of its nationals three months to return home from Iran and answer charges that they helped plan an abortive coup attempt here last month, a Government spokesman said today.

He said the 12, whose photographs were printed today in local newspapers, would have their citizenship and passports withdrawn if they did not meet the deadline. Another 60 people described by the Government as Iranian-trained saboteurs were arrested last month in connexion with the coup attempt. Iran has denied involvement.

The spokesman said the 12 helped plan the coup attempt, set for Bahrain's national day on December 15, with a cleric, Imam Hadi al-Mudarasi. The imam, expelled from Bahrain in 1979, was understood to have trained the group in sabotage, he added.

A Justice Ministry official said the first of the group of 60 — 45 Bahrainis, 13 Saudi Arabians, a Kuwaiti and an Omani — would start appearing today before an investigating magistrate, who would set a trial date.

Last month, Bahrain told Iran to replace its charge d'affaires and signed security cooperation agreement with Saudi Arabia.



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The beauty industry would like to propose you a toast for 1982 — in water. The business that is a by-word for glamour and sells creams at four times the price of a bottle of best champagne, has rediscovered the most basic of ingredients. Water is the key not only to the stream of new treatment systems being launched from next week, through to the spring. It is also an ingredient in all the moisturizers and the method by which you are now required to apply your make-up.

Those who have been washing their faces in soap and water from the Precious Baby Bath to the gold-plated palatial bathroom will see nothing strange about a beauty routine based on water. But even 10 years ago the idea of washing was almost taboo among beauty experts. Creams were jars of hope, faith and investment containing grandma's herbal potions or complex scientific formulae as the image required.

Skin fitness is the new byword for looking good. The need to de-mythify the beauty routine and to make it appeal to the modern woman, has led to an emphasis on health, energy and vitality, which make your skin glow before you start improving on your assets. Significantly, modern beauty products scarcely ever claim to transform you with a wave of magic potion. They "make your skin act younger", or "stimulate your skin to increase cell renewal". Mother nature just gets a helping hand.

Water is now the X factor, partly because it is simple, recognizable and far less alarming than those scientific names. It is also a very real and important part of the way we look.

Every school girl knows that the skin holds 14 pints of water. But it took a chemist in Massachusetts in 1931 to isolate the importance of adding water in skin moisturizers. With chemist Irwin Blank, the concept of the modern moisturizer was conceived. It is now the most crucial product in any skin fitness regime.

Moisturizers are now divided into two categories: those that lubricate and smooth the skin by adding water to the outer layer and those which claim to have active ingredients to nourish or increase the natural behaviour of the skin's cells.

In laywoman's terms, these factors divide moisturizers into "light" and "heavy": the night creams, which are basically oil-in-water and the under make-up moisturizers, which are emulsions of water-in-oil (the water evaporating swiftly, leaving the outer surface of the skin temporarily smoothed and puffed up).

Recent product launches have shown that moisturizers are now a far more complex business. Barrier creams used to veil the skin in order to stop the internal moisture being dried out by harsh weather or intense heat. But now Max Factor's Skin Principle Range of six products emphasizes that even their Serious Moisture Supplement (£5.75) is non-occlusive, that is, it does not form a barrier but acts as a valve between moisture being absorbed from outside or evaporating from within.

We used to look for moisturizers to suit our particular skin types from oily to dry. But modern products like Guerlain's Lotion for Mixed Skin (£7.95), launched last May, is designed to cope with a T-junction of greasy skin at forehead and nose, with dry and flaky cheeks. Clinique have now broken out their Texture Lotion (£11.75) designed to smooth the patchy surface of an oily skin, that does not require a deep or active moisturizer like Clinique's own Dramaticallly Different Moisturizing Lotion (£7.75).

There are moisturizers, especially designed as first steps in a skin care routine (the get-them-young principle) like the French form of Ro's Skin Care Basic Day Cream (£3.95). Older women are the target area for Elizabeth Arden's vandy expensive Millennium (£27.50) for the Night Renewal Creme, designed to "assist the skin's own cell renewal process so that it looks, feels and functions like a younger skin."

Harriet Hubbard Ayer's Anti-Ridges collection is also for an older skin (or one that has been prematurely aged by the sun). It contains both an Eyelid stick (£7.00) and a neck cream (Creme pour le Cou £11.00). Strong claims come from Charles of the Ritz, with their Age Zone Controller, to be launched in February and supposedly containing substances to help cell regeneration.

Two new really deep nourishing creams are being introduced by Barby Rubinstein on January 25. Their Creme de Repose and Creme de Stimulation (both £11.50) are intended to supplement the cleanse, tone, moisturize routine, especially for skin dehydrated by airline travel or ravages of age and climate. The creams are applied by facial massage, to give the benefit of beauty salon treatment at home.

With such a barrage of products to keep at bay both age and external stress factors (pollution, sun, cen-

## Beauty by Suzy Menkes

## Skin fitness



### Wake-up to water

Above: White cotton rainbow-striped towelling robe, S.M.L. £23.95 from Habitat stores countrywide and mail order from the Habitat catalogue. Thermolactyl pilot-edged vest, from £5.60, Damart (Dept 27XL), Bingley, West Yorks, 75p p & p and Damart shops.

Photograph by Serge Krougloff. Hair by Anthony at Toni & Guy.

### Make-up with water

For the first time since Hollywood stars spat into their Max Factor mascara, you are now expected to make-up with water.

From powder eye shadows, to brush-on rouge, the trick is now to dampen a sponge applicator and stroke on the colour for a subtle and blended effect. Eye colours especially, which now come in duo or even quad pans, need to be shaded together to give the right effect of translucent colour.

Foundation, too, should be applied with a dampened sponge, and even the once-despised powder should be set with the same dampened sponge (the whole process repeated twice to fix make-up naturally for an oily skin).

Your most important investment this New Year, could be

in the tools of the trade that give your existing make-up the right kind of polish and glow. Boots sell sets of wedge-shaped sponges (four for 40p) for contouring your face. Sponge eye-shadow applicators are 35p for three. You will need a complexion brush (£1.50) for whisking on powder and might like to slough off the dead cells with a facial cleansing brush (£1.45).

New make-up colours for spring are stronger and brighter than the muted bronze tones that have predominated throughout the winter. In our picture, make-up artist Pascal used Christian Dior's exotic new Les Fabuleux collection for spring/summer 1982, which revives a strong Indian pink, along with lagoon blue and golden yellow, as a counterpart to quiet browns and greys.

Left: White sweatshirt with black print face and diamante studs, also in black with gold, navy with pink, lemon with blue. One size, £30 from Zandra Rhodes, 14a Grafton Street, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Stirling Cooper branches; Dorothy Perkins.

Photograph by John Adriaen. Make-up by Pascal for Christian Dior Les Fabuleux Spring Collection, available from February 15th. Hair by Nicky at John Frieda.

especially if you use their moisturizers after it.

There is one other essential ingredient for your *batterie de beauté*. Vichy, bottles of spa water, are big in the beauty business. Their Equite skin care ranges has always emphasised the benefits of water. A Vichy derm cream (£5.90) designed to renew the epidermal cells and increase sebum production, came out last October, and a new range of products will be launched in two weeks' time.

But Vichy also make a can of water, which, if sprayed lightly on the face, can puff up the surface, cool wind-chapped or sunburned skin and fix your make-up. If my flowers respond so well to a daily misting, why shouldn't my face too?

Now soap is being introduced by many beauty houses. Even Boots, who have supplied my children with countless tablets of baby soaps, have produced a Creaming, Cleansing Bar (£2.50) in their No 7 Special Collection of moisturizing and treatment products, especially for dry skins. Orlane's Ligna Integrale range for dry skins has a Savon Extra Doux (£7.00). The Royal family's own soap makers, Bronley, are relaunching their 25-year-old pre-make-up soaps, containing buttermilk or wheatgerm (87p).

The argument against using soap and water used to be that it left the skin feeling tight — but dry. With the new soaps, claim the beauty houses, this does not happen.



Descamps, 197 Sloane St, London, SW1  
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## Television

## A shrewd eye on the police

Whatever the investigative value of *Police* (BBC 1), and it is too early to judge that, it will put into perspective, or put to sleep, those fictional glimpses of a policeman's lot which have provided television with ready-made human interest for as long as I can remember. Roger Graef and Charles Stewart brought their nine-strong production team into Thames Valley Police E Division (in practice Reading and environs) for nine months to live and observe — with a noiseless camera that needed no special lighting. The 13 programmes that resulted, which will be shown weekly from now until April, are presented without commentary or introduction.

Was it just the calendar or the desire for a downbeat, routine opening that made them choose New Year's Eve for starters? A procession of routine drunk and disorderlies ("I'm Dirty Peter"), a battered common-law wife refusing to lodge a complaint, the commitment to the detention room of Mad John Casey who had broken the windows there last time — the only real drama was launching a full-dress operation against a cottage where a man, his wife rang to say, had shot their dog and was threatening to shoot her likewise.

It ended with him in the station explaining that she had exaggerated and the police paying him £50 for damage caused during forcible entry, but if that sounds undramatic, it was not one trickle of unexpected tears in a documentary is worth a flood from an actor. Still, the police themselves are the real focus of dramatic interest, and inevitably the series will be largely judged by what happens in the more controversial subjects: rape allegations (programme of January 18), training (February 8), policing of difficult areas (February 15).

Over the next three months we will see how far Graef and Stewart and their crew came unconsciously to share the officers' own view of themselves — and perhaps find ourselves sharing it. (Will repeated sight of certain figures leave him as lovable as Barlow or Dixon?) All the questions are still unanswered. It will be compulsive viewing.

Eight years ago the BBC screened Michael Blam's *Children in Croydon*, one of the most harrowing studies ever to come out of Northern Ireland. I do not know which was worse: the nine-year-old who claimed to have "split three soldiers" or the little mites condemned to phenobarbitone and screaming in their sleep because they could not play in the porch without bullets whistling through it. It also left no hope: with a whole generation in Belfast and Londonderry maimed in these two ways, what future is there?

It is no criticism of the producer, Jonathan Crane, to say that his follow-up programme, *A Bright New Day*... (BBC 1), turned out an anti-climax. Thank heaven it did. Eight years on, Paul the champion stone-thrower is a charming Dublin barman, Maria is off her tablets and Richard, blinded at 12 by a robber bullet, is in his second year at university and engaged to a lovely girl. The teacher who had shocked us with the drawing books of her class now looked younger, better rested and better-off.

But 15-year-old Billy, who could not wait to join his heroes in the UDA, is now a sadder man with a child of his own and finding that jobs are no easier to get after a three-year jail stretch for armed robbery, however loyally motivated. The sturdy little lad who sang Creggan marching songs with the clan of a natural musician has become an epileptic with equally grim prospects. Unemployment is what clouds the "brand new day".

Anthony Masters



## Lots to do

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Natural History Museum  
South Kensington

## The Great Japan Exhibition, Part II

Royal Academy

## Self-Portraits, or The Artist as His/Her Own Model

Nicholas Treadwell

## Badge Art

Angela Flowers

## Bilson/Kevin Scott/Graham Smithie

Off Centre Gallery

If critics tend to get retrospective at this time of year, you can bet that it is not because they really believe that the change of years makes any real difference. Rather, it must have a lot to do with the sacrosanctity of the silly season. So what we usually get is a large number of miscellaneous lightweight Christmas shows — gatherings of things which might just conceivably suggest themselves as possible gifts. Cartoons are usually big; Michael Parkin generally has his cats, by Louis Wain and others; and there are lots of drawings by minor twentieth-century masters, colourful graphics, and small oils and watercolours aimed at a fairly conservative taste.

The big shows that opened in mid-November run on, relatively unmarked: the splendid *Lutgers and Late Sickers* shows at the Hayward continue until January 31 (an unbeatable combination, I should say, at £1.50, or 75p if you go on Mondays, or Tuesday to Thursday between 6 and 8 pm). The British Museum's *Not to be Missed* chance to see virtually all Goya's prints together is available until January 24. The not-so-splendid *Splendours of the Gonzaga* are at the Victoria and Albert until January 31, and the excitingly displayed if not overall too encouraging second part of the Whitechapel Art Gallery's encyclopaedic survey of *British Sculpture in the Twentieth Century*, covering 1950-80, may be seen until January 24.

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Anthony Masters

## Unseasonable blessings of Japanese subtlety



Amazing photo-realism in Cudworth's 'Self-Portrait at Home' (left) and malign child in Ibesson's 'Making Something of Myself' (detail)

But no one is going to open a major new exhibition around the year's deep midnight. With one extraordinary exception — or two-thirds exception. That is the Royal Academy's Great Japan Exhibition, which closed on December 21, only to reopen on December 28 completely done over. The reasons for the changeover are purely practical: many of the art works on show — the paintings and textiles — should not be subjected to light for too long, not even the meticulously controlled light-levels of the present installation. Also, the Japanese are great believers in brief, highly selective shows, rather than the travelling colossi we have got used to in the West. So the obvious answer was to remove about two-thirds of the exhibits halfway through the show's run (it goes on until February 21) and substitute other pieces of the same genre and the same lofty standard.

Thus, if you loved the first version of the show (over a quarter of a million did), you should hurry back for a second helping. You will find that the changes are subtle but far-reaching: the initial impression is much the same, and then you start noticing that some favourite piece has vanished and some new wonder has appeared in its place. Every single painting in Part I except the *Bounding Tiger* of Nagasawa Rosetsu has gone, but instead we have such delights as Watanabe Shikun's *Flowering Cherries at Yoshinogami*, familiar already as the cover-illustration of the catalogue (which, incidentally, covers both parts of the show), Maruyama Okyo's exquisite screen *Wisteria in Blossom*, and in a more dynamic mode, Sanku's *Dragon of the Storm*, *Tiger with Bamboo*. But there are changes everywhere, even in the (one would have thought) relatively hardy forms like armour. Though it cannot quite be said that you are getting two exhibitions for the price of one (unless, of course, you had the foresight to buy a season ticket), the new version of the show may even be an improvement on the old, and is certainly worth £3 of anyone's money, even a second time around.

Meanwhile, not all the commercial galleries have been so intimidated by the Christmas spirit as to hold off special exhibitions. Nicholas Treadwell, for instance, has a theme show, *Self-Portraits, or The Artist as His/Her Own Model* (until Saturday), which, though billed as a Christmas exhibition, follows very much his habitual line in group shows of gallery artists, offering them a very loosely defined object which they can approach, if they wish, in his/her own way. This one could only be taken quite light-heartedly, and by some it is. Graham Ibesson, for instance, shows himself as an unfinished grey figure about to be demolished by a head-blowing little boy with a mallet (possibly a younger self).

But most of the artists take the challenge quite straight, and sometimes, as with Graham Dean's raw close-up, with agonising seriousness. Probably the best works are between and between: Harry Holland's simple, classical and yet with slightly mistrustful image of himself, Guy Gladwell's typical play of shadow over a white wall with just a small piece of mirror attached to it partially reflecting himself, Robert Knight's combined pain-

ting sculpture wall-piece *Darling I Am Growing Old*, Nick Cudworth's amazing piece of photo-realism in pastel and crayon showing himself in a mirror, with an exquisite still-life just behind. It is also pleasing to see Roberto Gonzalez Fernandez, whom I last wrote about from Edinburgh at festival time, now in this rather unlikely gallery. Another slightly (but only slightly) seasonal theme show is Angela Flowers's *Badge Art* (until January 16). It is perhaps not so much a theme as a form: the idea was to get nearly two dozen artists, who might not before have considered the lapel badge or button a likely genre to do so and see what they could come up with. The show consists of the original drawings or paintings on which the badges were based, and the badges themselves, which can be bought for 60p each. The point that an enormous number of badges comes on the market with very little conscious design among the lot of them is well taken — though sometimes the triteness is part of the charm. All the same, it is interesting to see what a bunch of established

artists will do with this miniature, popular form. In the event, nobody comes up with amazing new inventions, but much of what they have done is slightly and characteristically particular liked. Says Barlow, "I think it shows one of our ceramic heads such as are now at the Peter Moores exhibition in Liverpool, and Tom Phillips's which is another chip from the *Hummingbird* workshop, finding a typically mysterious but evocative message hidden in Mallock's Victorian verbiage."

A show, which makes no concessions whatever to the time of year is that at the Off Centre Gallery, 6 Shillingford Street, Islington, is devoted until the end of January to three artists connected one way and another with the idea of "the theatre of painting". Like all such notions, the idea needs a bit of straining to fit three very varied painters, and yet the suggestion that each in his own way paints a sort of abstracted scenario for an unwritten drama, or provides a setting for it, is actually helpful. The most familiar, Bilson, is here seen in a quite unfamiliar light: he seems to have abandoned his previous semi-primitive style (though some examples are on show, along with the new work), and now produces instead dimensional paintings with collage which, though they are called "Faces", are in fact almost abstract — very rich and tumultuous and, I would say, far more potent than his agreeable but less distinctive earlier work.

Graham Smithie is perhaps better known for his stained glass, but the paintings here (also using collage) have an elegant, slightly mannered quality, depicting mysterious, dreamlike landscapes in cool, subdued colours. Kevin Scott seems to be developing since his one-man show a year ago along the lines he then laid down: delicate, atmospheric abstractions sometimes suggest a magnified detail from a late Monet, but they are getting simpler and tougher without losing any of their sensuous appeal. Though American in origin, he still seems closer to the British tradition of the abstract, basing abstraction than to the stridency of much American Abstract Expressionism. But, looked at from either direction, he is out on his own: not always the most comfortable place to be, but finally the most worthwhile.

John Russell Taylor

## Galleries

## Circus

## The greatest show... in Monte Carlo



Oleg Popov (right) with entangled assistant

of the greatest celebrations of the art. Popov is an ageing legend who inevitably receives the top prize of a Golden Clown in recognition of his entire career in the state circus of the Soviet Union. Alone of the performers, he was above competition and appeared at all the performances. There were two of his routines which are no longer great and, when he transforms a white rabbit into a black one, he does it less well than many others. But when he appears in an original and simple piece of clowning, his impish face twisting under his bright yellow wig, he can still leave unforgettable images.

Approaching a circle cast by a spotlight, he warms his hands as at a fire and settles into it for a picnic. The bud of a flower blossoms in the hands in the light and then the light moves and he chases it. Capturing the light again, he lies in it and draws a napkin over himself. Like a blanket, for a mooze. As the light fades, he captures it in his picnic basket, which glows. His final toss of the basket towards the audience floods the tent with light and his mastery of clowning is reaffirmed, as it is again when he walks on the slack wire, or hangs a wet clown up to dry.

Again, such known masters of circus, the selectors prove their industry by including an act like Dr Hot and Neon, a pair of North American jugglers who two years ago were hawking their talents on the streets during

the Edinburgh Festival, and who more recently stole the show during the short-lived variety season at London's Phoenix Theatre. Their act is skilfully verbal as well as dextrous, but the youth of the routine told against them when they faced comparison with a juggler like Kris Krems, whose *Las Vegas* act was from the Polish State Circus. At the closing party, the exuberance produced impromptu Russian dancing, cartwheels across the dance floor, and royal encouragement for the international act. With colour and confetti, it became a circus as lively as imagination.

The English acts have mainly apathy awaiting them at home. Yasmine Smart's horsemanship and dressage won her the Women of the Circus award and last year's winner, Mary Chipperfield, won this year's award of the Press Association of Variety, Dance and Circus Writers for her training and presentation of tigers. For Miss Chipperfield, who is much in demand on the Continent, that circus apathy is part of a more general malaise: she finds that the English no longer go out at night, but she has faith that circus will again play a large part in British entertainment.

West Germany is offering a good example of how that might happen with the new Circus Roncalli, an extravaganza that could be from a Fellini film with circus as its mainstay. Colour, light and life. There may never have been such a circus as Roncalli's, but it is aimed at the elusive ideal of imagination and not simply struggling to survive.

Ned Chaillet

## Concert

## Story-teller at the keyboard

## Daniel Blumenthal

## Queen Elizabeth Hall

Since the last Leeds Piano contest London has already heard recitals from the British winner, Ian Hobson, and the precociously gifted young German, Wolfgang Manz, who was runner-up. In three weeks time acquaintances can be renewed with Bernard d'Ascoli, the courageous blind Frenchman placed third. On Sunday it was the turn of Daniel Blumenthal, the American fourth prize-winner of 28, whose programme included four of the pieces which helped to carry him from the semi-finals into the concerto round at Leeds.

Mr Blumenthal is a graphic story-teller who went from strength to strength as his composers progressively allowed him to exploit the

orchestral potential of the keyboard.

Beginning with Beethoven's *F major Sonata*, Op. 109, he seemed not quite to have found the requisite inner calm. In the first movement, in particular, his rubato and dynamic contrasts were over-impressionable. The last two movements brought stronger reminders of his fellow-feeling for the composer as shown in the *B flat Concerto* at Leeds, even if again certain details of timing sounded imposed rather than growing naturally and inevitably from the notes. In Brahms's *Sixteen Waltzes*, Op. 39, he was splendidly at home, as if less than wholly persuasive in more intimate lyricism, though the last two numbers were lovely.

Busoni, Debussy and Liszt in their different ways put Mr Blumenthal's technique to the test and, except

perhaps for passing discomfort in the Brahms from Busoni's "Carmen" Chamber-Fantasy, and the occasional "added note", in Liszt's *Waltzes*, he rarely found wanting. His greatest asset, here, was his ear for colour, always he orchestrated the texture, as well as meeting climaxes with formidable reserves of strength. If a trace of nervous creep in the *B flat* at hurried peaks of excitement in Liszt's "Vallee d'Obermann" and "Dante" Sonata, there were countless subtleties of shading in compensation. His most aristocratic pianism nevertheless came in a group of Schubert's *Waltzes*, with his humour in the *Cherry* take-off, and simplicity in the portrait of the girl with flaxen hair to match his crystalline brilliance in seas lashed by the west wind.

Joan Chissell

## New records

## Multilingual Shostakovich

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 24. Concertgebouw/Raidink/Varady/Fischer/Deakaw. Decca SKXL 7532. Mahler: Symphony No. 7. 190. (2 discs). EMI SLS 5238 (2 discs). EMI SLS 5239 (3 discs).

A new recording of Shostakovich's fourteenth symphony could hardly have been released at a more alarmingly appropriate time. His most explicit protest against unjust and premature death ("What is the joy of talent amongst villains and the insane?" asks one of the poems set) is presented for the first time in a third version, approved by Shostakovich, in which the poems are sung in their original languages, Spanish, German and French.

The deviations in metre and content between the originals and the Russian translations and the greater immediacy of verbal comprehension may modify our experience and make a comment of its own. But ultimately it does little to deepen or intensify our apprehension of the symphony's meaning and its power to move, so perfectly fused is Shostakovich's musical language as the words in which the work was originally imagined.

Julia Varady's austere, highly intelligent singing and the lucid playing of the Concertgebouw Orchestra cannot be compared in expressive insight with the performance by Vladimir Kaya and the Moscow Philharmonic under Rostropovich in the only other

generally available recording. But Decca is worth possessing if only for the singing of Fischer-Deakaw. This is the finest recording of this later Shostakovich I have heard. It is a masterpiece of subtle artistry and that sense of anguished terror and motionless movement to the "Frisson Song", and recreating as many shades of fear of death which Shostakovich was "the most intense emotion of all".

How much notice should we take of a composer's own statements about his work? The old question raises its head again in the London Philharmonic's recording with Klaus Tennstedt of Mahler's seventh symphony. Mahler thought of it as his happiest work; Schoenberg, too, remarked on its classical repose; and this is very much Tennstedt's reading. Characterized throughout by a beguiling leanness of texture and timbre, tension is built and released within a small scale; expressive points are made, and nerves touched, less by ripe dynamic contrasts than by split-second timing and a poised, restrained lyricism. But, as in his live performances, Tennstedt tends to mute the contrasting menace of the Scherzo. Here, and in the fleeting spectra of the first movement's tense rhythmic figures and distorted tonality, we miss that shadow of lurking disruption which seeps over its pale sunlight.

A boxed set of Fauré's orchestral music, with eloquent vocal solos by Nicolai Gedda and Frederica von Stade, includes among its rarer items the symphonic suite from *Shylock*. The delicately imagined orchestration of this too rarely heard piece shows off the

consistently affectionate, warm yet translucent playing of the Toulouse Orchestra, while Jean-Pierre Collard, both in the *Fantaisie* and *Waltzes*, plays with a suppleness and volatile imagination that captures that characteristic quality of music that is vibrantly alive yet always just eluding the grasp.

Hilary Finch

● The Bristol Old Vic opens its Spring Season of 1982, on February 17, with Shakespeare's *Henry V*, sponsored by the National Westminster Bank and directed by John David. The company will also be presenting *Finnegans Wake* by James Joyce, and *The Merchant of Venice* by Shakespeare.

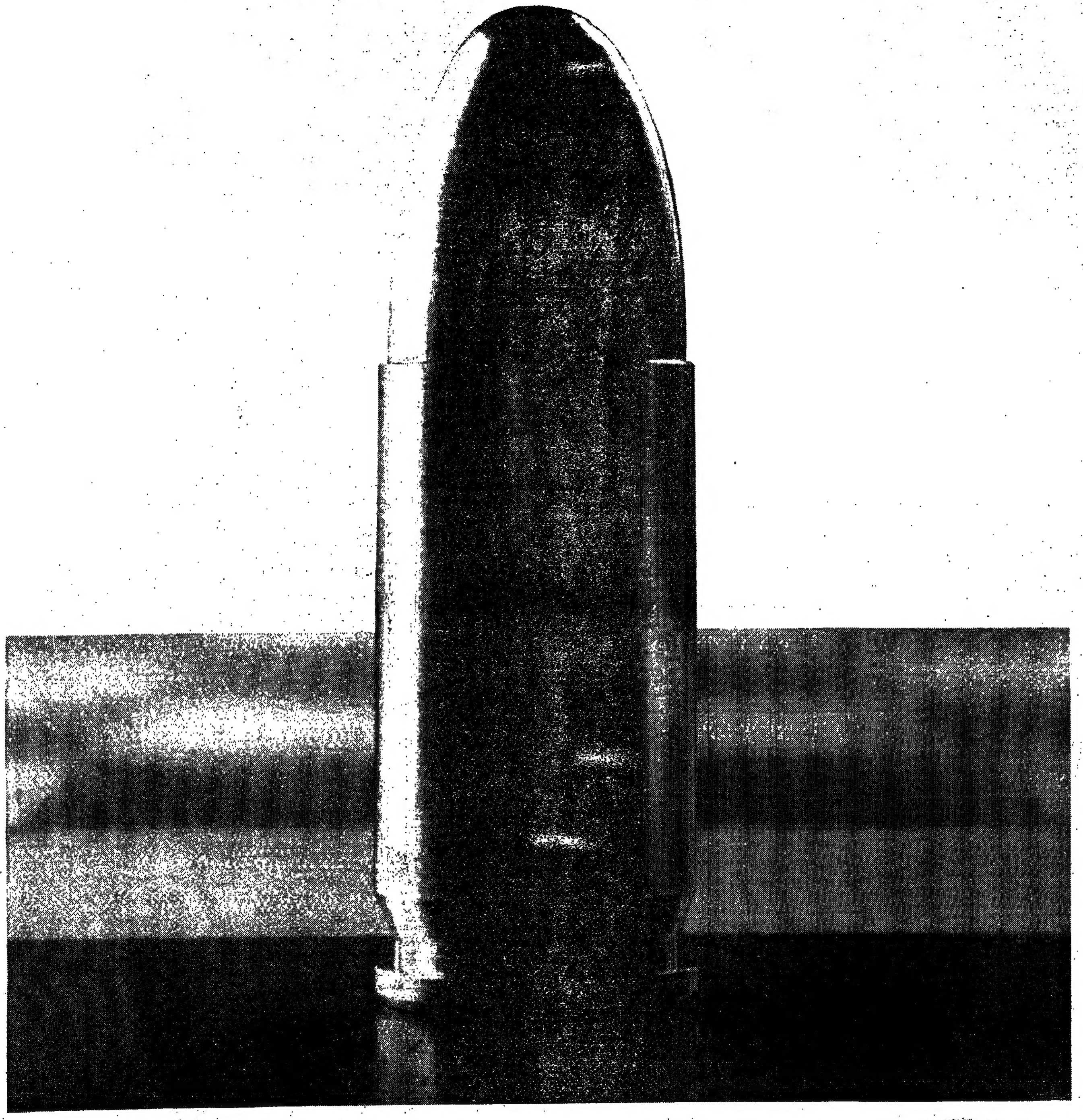
● The Yorick Players Theatre Company is to present a double bill of rare plays, a *Yorkshire Tragedy* (once attributed to Shakespeare) and Chekhov's *On the Grass*, at the Old Half Moon Theatre from January 25 to February 13. The presentation is part of the Half Moon's tenth anniversary celebrations.

● *Incident atulse Hill* "Robert Frost's first play is so likely to be misunderstood and dangerously underrated as was the first London play of its director Harold Pinter."

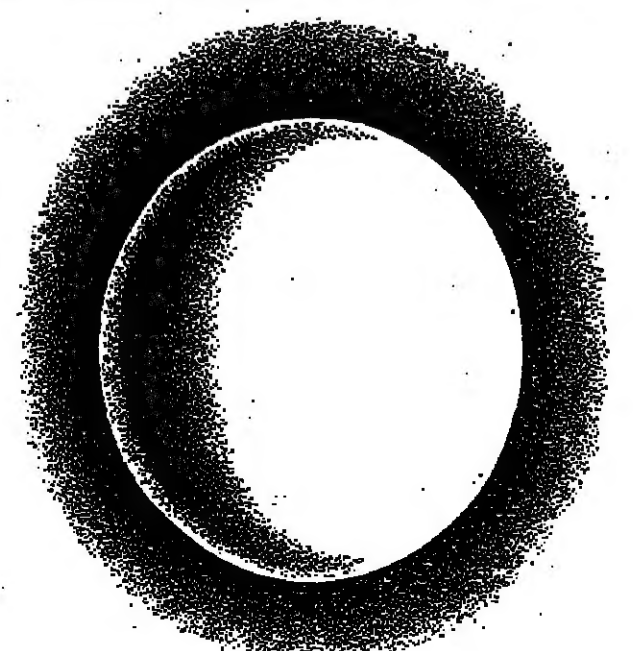
Hamstead Theatre



# Just a pawn in the game?



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**CENTRAL**



# A crisis of credibility for David Steel

By Mike Thomas

Social Democratic MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East

Today's meeting between Bill Rodgers and David Steel needs to sort out more than a squabble over the allocation of parliamentary seats. The SDP/Liberal alliance is in a fundamental crisis which cannot be resolved by name-calling abuse or generalized soft soap.

In October, after the July joint statement, *A Fresh Start for Britain*, and the overwhelming endorsement of the Alliance at the Liberal Party conference, Social Democrat and Liberal national negotiators agreed on guidelines for the negotiation of parliamentary seats.

- Parity of numbers of seats;
- Equal opportunity to win and for each party to fight some of its most preferred seats and some less promising;
- Seats not to be clustered for one party in any area but to be spread between us;
- Each party to have a fair share of Conservative and Labour, urban and rural, marginal and safer seats.

With high hopes, local Social Democrats began putting together

their negotiating teams. Negotiations were set in train in London, Scotland, Wales and in English counties from Cornwall to Cumbria. Now, three months later, Bill Rodgers for the Social Democrats has called a halt and today meets David Steel, the Liberal leader, to seek undertakings that would enable the SDP to start talking again.

I hope he can, for this is far more than a squabble.

Bill Rodgers stopped the negotiations for the simple reason that, after hours of fruitless discussions up and down the country, it has become clear that the Liberal Party either does not want to abide by the guidelines its leaders freely agreed to or is so loosely organized that no agreement with its leaders is worth the paper it is written on.

It is not just Greenock — although the guidelines specifically provide that sitting SDP or Liberal MPs as at January 1, 1982, are automatically entitled to the candidacy for their existing seats provided they are properly selected by their own party. Neither is it simply a matter of a Liberal prospective candidate in Derbyshire wanting to reopen concluded negotiations there so that he can have the seat he prefers.

Much more serious is the attitude and approach of local Liberals in almost every nego-

tiating unit; this has been wholly contrary to the letter and the spirit of the guidelines agreed with the Liberal leadership.

In tones worthy of the Ulster Unionists in their worst "not an inch" rhetoric, Social Democrats are told this, that or the other seat is "not negotiable". Lists are produced of "Liberal territory" into which the SDP will not be allowed to intrude.

Offered in exchange are seats with Conservative or Labour majorities so high that even Shirley Williams could not scale them in a by-election. Liberal negotiators confide to their SDP constituency associations will not agree to any arrangement that is not substantially to their advantage. In one unit the SDP team arrived to be told that the Liberals had prospective candidates in 11 of the 14 seats in the area and that the SDP should simply take the other three — none of them very promising.

No doubt some of this can be written down to excessive bargaining zeal, but the apparent unwillingness or inability of the Liberal leadership to explain the guidelines to their local representatives — and tell them they must stick to them — has been deeply depressing. The example set by the Scottish Liberals in Greenock, where there can be no doubt as to the interpretation of

the guidelines, is only the most glaring example.

Bill Rodgers is right to bring the matter to a head now, for if the Liberals wish to renege on the guidelines, they had better tell us quickly. Indeed, David Steel's pledge to disavow recalcitrant Liberal candidates, made on *Weekend World* before the Liberal Party conference, voted for the Alliance, will take a herculean labour to fulfil unless Liberal activists are told exactly what their national leadership has agreed to.

The Social Democrats will look for clear evidence of action on the part of David Steel and his colleagues to fulfil their obligations. Anything less would put the Alliance under real threat.

Putting the Alliance into practice on the ground was always bound to be our hardest task; but it has been made incomparably more difficult by the reluctance of the Liberal leadership to explain to their own party the reality of that process.

The Social Democrats should not and cannot settle for anything less than a realistic prospect of winning half the seats won by the Alliance at the next election. (After all, on any analysis of the polls, we are likely to attract two thirds or more of the Alliance vote.) Those Liberals who seriously want to achieve power to do all

those things both parties agree are necessary to put Britain back on its feet know that their task now is to persuade their colleagues.

The major responsibility of leadership in that task must fall on David Steel. The future of the Alliance may now depend on how readily he shoulders it.

But no one should doubt that the task, however difficult, can be achieved. I believe the will is there to do it, and my own experience in Nottinghamshire — the first and only negotiating unit so far to be settled — encourages me to think that Social Democrats and Liberals, if they stick to the nationally agreed guidelines, can settle the distribution of parliamentary seats amicably and speedily. Both parties know that is what the majority of their members and, most important of all, the country expects of them.

It is the only way to save the country from the prospect of a devil and deep blue sea choice at the next election: Mr Foot and Mrs Thatcher on the one hand and Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe on the other.

The author is the chairman of the SDP organization committee. He was a member of the SDP national negotiating team with the Liberals.

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## Getting rid of depression with talk and sympathy

Nine years ago Shirley Toms lost her father. A former winner of the Queen's Award for Industry, he had been in and out of hospital with severe depression, brought on by being made redundant and splitting up with his wife. He was put on anti-depressant pills; he took to drink. Shirley nursed him through two suicide attempts. Then, in 1972, two small boys found him on the South Downs. He had cut his wrists.

Shirley Toms already had some personal experience of depression. At 24 she had had an abortion, and felt terrible for months. But now, witnessing the embarras and slightly shocked sympathy that surrounds suicide she felt increasingly split in two. "One part of my brain babbles the obvious distance and grieving," she says. "The other part, 'rather like having flu all the time' when she heard a woman over her car radio describing a new organization, 'Depressives Anonymous'."

She wrote down her name, Janet Stevenson, and found, on getting in touch, a sympathetic nurse and ex-midwife, a some time depressive who was trying to set up a mutual help organization for fellow sufferers. Shirley offered to start it up in London and soon found she was counselling groups of people very like herself: bewildered, prone to despair, full of guilt. Many had simply been put on to high doses of Valium by their doctors; all longed to talk.

Dealing with depression is not like dealing with alcoholism. The symptoms depressives suffer from are those experienced by most people at some moment in their lives. It is their persistence that makes them different, the relentlessness that changes them from a bad mood into a state bordering on illness. The World Health Organization, trying to pin down one of the most nebulous and tenacious of modern disorders, recently estimated that some 100 million people at any one time are depressed — 3 per cent of the world population. It is not only that there are not enough trained doctors and psychiatrists to treat them — few are confident of what treatment to hand out even if they had the time to explore it. In what is the closest definition, depression comes to depression, she has prepared a list of 20 symptoms: they range through feelings of isolation, insecurity and inadequacy, lapses of memory and concentration, self-hatred, insomnia and guilt. Individually, nothing remarkable; it is the package that counts as well as the terror, once the depression goes away, that it will come back. There is no matching list of cures.

The actual history of the organization goes back nearly 10 years. In the early 1970s, Nemone Lethbridge wrote a television play based on her own experience of anguish and trauma after giving birth to a long-awaited son. She called it *Baby Blues* and it brought her hundreds of letters from women asking for help. In time, Nemone Lethbridge decided to leave the embryo self-help organization she had dubbed *Depressives Anonymous*, and return to her writing. But by then Janet Stevenson was in a position to take it over. She started by renaming it "Depressives Associated", arguing that anonymity was precisely one of the most agonizing aspects of the illness, and something to escape from.

Since then she has struggled with considerable and his brother charged with heavy. Fortunately for them, Clupik's report was itself thrown out; the appeal, because it was "untested". But since then, Clupik has been called in to give expert evidence more and more



Shirley Toms, counselling people very like herself — bewildered, prone to despair, full of guilt

patience to guide and nurture into life groups and leaders all round the country. Sitting at her home in Dorset she has written regular newsletters for her members, answered some 30,000 private letters, and sat daily by her ever-ringing phone. Money is a constant problem. When she can, she puts callers in touch with a growing bank of "specialists", people who, because they themselves suffered from it, have made a study of some particular area of depression: post natal, the depressions sparked off by bereavement, loss of job or even — and there is a growing body of medical research into this — laryngitis. Jan Lush, now Chairman of DA, takes many of the pre-menstrual depression callers. She started getting depressed at the age of 11 then spent a miserable and confused adolescence, mysteriously unhappy for two weeks in every month. "There's a lot of publicity about it now," she says, "but it came 20 years too late for me."

The organization was and remains amateur, fragmented, an impression and often not closely reasoned. But it is a real thing, electric shock treatment, toxic foods, modern life and stress. Yet behind the leaflets and newsletters, hidden among the tea and sympathy, is an exceptionally necessary service of comfort. For, unlike nearly everything else thought up to date to cure depressives, listening and understanding actually helps.

The people who join DA find themselves getting better: the depressions come back, but they are no longer along with them. Not long ago Shirley Toms found that she had breast cancer and had to undergo long sessions of radiotherapy, which left her again severely depressed. Knowing that there were people to talk to, she says, enabled her to struggle back to some sort of equilibrium. And Depression Anonymous is growing; depressed callers are now branching out as tentative counsellors. Little more than listeners, perhaps, but on the other end of the telephone, waiting to help. In the absence of more solid medical knowledge, their existence is crucial.

Depressives Associated, 19 Marley Ways, Wimborne Minster, Dorset.

Caroline Moorehead



"All smiles and animation until the bows touched the strings... then they became grave and serene" — members of the London Junior Strings try Handel



## What Danny, Amelia, Umoja and friends played in the holidays

Spoilt, sated and primed to detonate after too many hours indoors being polite to ancient relatives, children are as unmanageable in the days immediately after Christmas as in any week of the year. They are wild to run with the pack of their own age-group again, but little inclined to get back under the yoke of school work. But for several years hundreds of children in this condition have trooped into empty London schools before term resumes to labour willingly over music.

The courses range from this week's residential course for the London Schools' Symphony Orchestra to others for guitar, recorder, jazz ensemble, rock and reggae. This year, for the first time, the Inner London Education authority multiplied the risks by adding a course for the relative untamed age-group of seven to 11-year-olds. The London Junior Strings met for three days last week in a deserted Tower Hamlets comprehensive, with violins, cellos, combs, chewing gum and squawky toys left over from Christmas. Some participants seemed scarcely big enough to lug their half-size cellos up the stairs.

The ILEA junior strings are remarkable enough at any time of the year, but are taught by one of those wholesale methods which some professional musicians deplore as anti-elitism gone mad. Instead of concentrating on individual children who show promise, the teachers take on entire classes at primary school and coach them right through till

they leave, as matter-of-factly as if they were teaching maths or gymnastics.

The child who learns an instrument is not set apart as an oddity, and those whose parents might never have dreamt of arranging tuition get a chance to try, with no easy exit excused by assumed lack of talent. It does not cross anybody's mind to drop out.

The method was developed by Miss Sheila Nelson, drawing on work done at the University of Illinois. It differs from the well-known Suzuki method in that the initial preoccupation is less with minute points of technique than with developing confidence and familiarity with the instrument. There is something almost frightening in the sight of a class of 30 six-year-olds finishing a tune in unison with a flourish and then brandishing their fiddles aloft at arm's length in a Salute of Liberty salute. Surprisingly, breakages are not a serious problem.

Assistants move round the classroom giving each child individual help, and there are also sessions with small groups. But the system makes it possible to cope with twice as many children as the same teaching man-

power could manage under traditional methods, and to give them two or three lessons a week instead of only one.

The Suzuki method depends heavily on parents interested enough to spend time and effort helping their children learn. The children the London scheme is designed to reach are the very ones who cannot count on such help. The teachers keep trying to draw parents in, but have had to evolve methods which work without them.

About 760 children of primary age are now involved in the scheme, mostly from East End schools. The smaller number invited for the holiday course, the first of its kind in London, were something of a select, the ones judged likely to benefit from the chance to make faster progress. But they were also as average a band of ruffians as ever terrorized a supply teacher, diverse in colour and in shade of cockney, high-spirited and cheeky.

The course took in a corner of a stark glass-and-concrete comprehensive with wind passageways, mangled turf, and lavatory graffiti as rich as on the New York subway. The cheap Chinese

violins and cellos that make the scheme possible lay around the hall in implausible varnishes varying in tint from saffron to aubergine. Music stands kept clattering over, scattering Tails and Handel in all directions. Hoarse-voiced Danny was in full cry again. Simon in sneakers and track-suit top was doing his best to be noticed. Umoja in yellow stockings and braids was doing her best not to be. Ben and Pupil had a brief fencing-match with their bows.

Parental cooperation was a problem as usual: an appeal had gone out for parents to come and help at meals and break-times, but Amelia's middle-class dad was the only one to turn up, looking sheepish.

But the teachers were well able to cope by themselves. The disorder was all high spirits, not disaffection. Once the music stands had been rescued and everybody had been tuned up, they launched into action with intensity, buzzing laboriously like a beehive in winter. They had several new pieces to learn for the concert at the end of the course, a Handel gavotte and march, a concerto grosso by Vaughan Williams, and other pieces

for two groups of violins with cellos.

A whole day's music is more exacting than one lesson in a full school day. Assessing stamina was still a matter for experiment. Sheila Nelson and the others gathered at the end of the day to discuss whether the scheme was still too hard. Each session of 45 minutes was followed by a long break period, and the sessions themselves were diversified — sometimes a large group, sometimes small ones. Some sessions were instrumental, some vocal, and some were organized games periods, which binged with musical phrases was played.

Break periods were times for frantic release of animal spirits. Football, hide-and-seek, bulldogs and on-it were played with ferocity. But while Amelia's dad was being torn to pieces by small mammals in the playground, cheeky Simon was sitting in a corner, upstairs patiently practising semiquaver passages by himself.

The scheme for taking on a whole class at a time has been going on for three years, growing larger each year. The method does not seek to justify itself in terms of the number of mute, inglorious Menuhins it un-

covers, but in the number of children given right of entry on easy and familiar terms to a world of musical competence that they might otherwise never have in inkling of.

Some schools are more interested than others, but a number of teachers in other fields believe that the scheme also has indirect benefits in reading, co-ordination and general confidence. But at present the end of primary school means the end of string playing for most of the children in the scheme. The classes disperse and they move into a climate where exams increasingly dominate attention.

The scheme continues to grow, in spite of spending constraints, and each year a larger number of leavers move up into secondary school. Growing cohorts of children moving up must make their presence felt more and more.

"Get ready, all you cellos!" called the teacher. "I'm not a cello, I'm a human being," muttered Amelia impatiently to giggles. But then Handel got on the move again. As the music began, the children changed. Their faces were all smiles and animation until the moment the bows touched the strings. Then they became grave, serene, until the moment the bows left the strings again — and then all was animation as before.

George Hill

## Social Democrats who might oppose Jenkins

Roy Jenkins need not expect the Social Democrat candidature for the vacant Glasgow, Hillhead, seat to be handed to him on a plate should he decide to run. I hear that local party members expect challenges from Alastair Hetherington, former editor of *The Guardian*, and Iain MacCormick, the rugged-looking former Scottish Nationalist MP for Argyll. Both men are founding fathers of the SDP in Scotland.

I am told a meeting of the local hierarchy will be held today against a background of Liberal Party interest in the seat (Mr Chick Brodie has already been selected as their candidate although he says he will stand down if necessary in the interests of the Liberal-SDP alliance).

Neither Hetherington nor MacCormick was available for comment yesterday but their names were on the lips of all good Scottish Social Democrats I spoke to, as was that of Ian McDonald, the SDP's Glasgow North chairman.

Hetherington, 62, a hill-walking devotee who disappeared into the Scottish hinterland via controversy as controller of BBC Scotland and then manager of BBC Highland after leaving *The Guardian* in 1975, is considered a weaker challenger than MacCormick. The local press criticised him into while laird of BBC

Scotland will, I believe, be taken into account should he seek the SDP nomination.

MacCormick, who was educated at Glasgow High School and Glasgow University, is a passionate believer in devolution. He quit the SNP after it was taken over by what he regards as a group of left-wing fanatics.

## Blazing arrows

Mel Brooks, the film director who has wrought his particular brand of havoc on the Bible (*History of the World, Part One*), the American West (*Blazing Saddles*) and horror obsession (*Young Frankenstein*), has signed an \$8m deal to come to Britain to give the same treatment to Robin Hood. Brooks has raised the money on Wall Street because he does not want to rely on film-studio finance. He was angry over the way 20th Century Fox handled his last picture, which did poorly at the box office.

What with Central TV's "white UFO" over Nottingham, and now Brooks in Sherwood Forest, Brian Clough can no longer expect to have the East Midlands all to himself.

## Shying away

Mr David Robinson, the millionaire who has donated £400,000 to the Glasgow fund, was described as "shy". That will not quite do. In 1977 Philip Zimbardo the psychologist reported in his book *Stigmata* that 70 per cent of people consider themselves shy — although that does not mean they barricade their homes with

## THE TIMES DIARY

Artist David Smith, whose penchant for arduous commissions never ceases to amaze, is about to put to rest again less than two years after return from the South Pole as official artist with the British Antarctic Survey. Smith, 61, has been engaged by Trinity House to paint all the 100-odd lighthouses and light ships around the coast of Britain.

The job will, he expects, take two years, during which he will also be working for the government of Finland, painting views of that country. For this he will have to take his brushes and easel into the Arctic Circle.

guard dogs and electric fences. Zimbardo also found that as many as 40 per cent of people regard themselves as chronically shy, and 2 per cent as especially shy — shy all the time, wherever they were and whoever they were with.

Presumably Mr Robinson may be numbered among the chronically shy and one wonders whether this is in any way connected with his benefactions.

Pathological shyness can be a weird condition, as readers of books about Howard Hughes will know. Two of the most extraordinary cases in the clinical literature make Hughes seem positively convivial. In 1947 Langley Collyer died in New York. He had not been seen for 36 years and



anyone or come into the light, a particular type of his. Even in its non-pathological state, shyness can be far more painful than non-sufferers may think. If Mr Robinson intends any future benefactions the shy might be an imaginative choice.

## Unsociable?

As readers may recall, I do not include myself among the Sir Keith Josephs and other sociological-bashers of this world. I think he is wrong to limit the Social Science Research Council's £21m allocation, when other sciences are not asked to accept similar limitations. But there was some debate in the office yesterday when several of us tried to

agree on the major practical discoveries of the social sciences. Here there is fertile ground for a serious competition for once. My usual bottle for the most witty (by which I mean short and convincing) of three practical insights achieved by the British social sciences:

## No moonshine

If ever he runs short of a boy or two, astronomer loyal Patrick Moore could make ends meet by working in court. I am told that in a fascinating case in the United States, the defendant was convicted all because he got his astronomy wrong.

Stanley Tranowski, of Chicago, was charged with passing a counterfeit bank note in exchange for a meal. His defence, corroborated by his brother, was that on the day in question, May 12, the two men were visiting their mother. They even had a photograph to prove it, they said. The picture, taken by one brother, showed the other man, with their mother and her dog.

Unfortunately for Tranowski, the photograph also showed the dog's shadow and a wily district attorney turned to Larry Clupik, astronomer at the local planetarium, to see whether that was enough to check the alleged date of the photograph. According to Clupik, it was. From the shadow, he was able to calculate the height of the sun, and its position. Checking the position, he found that the sun was in the state only on April 13 and August 31 — and not on May 12. Stanley's defence was thereupon thrown out, he was convicted,

and his brother charged with perjury. Fortunately for them, Clupik's report was itself thrown out; the appeal, because it was "untested". But since then, Clupik has been called in to give expert evidence more and more

## Hot 100

No sooner does a New Year dawn than a fresh batch of centenarians, each with its individual celebration, descends on the hard-working diarist. At first sight 1982 appears moderate in comparison with what follows: 1983 recalls the centenaries of one kind or another of Richard Wagner, Karl Marx, Martin Luther, Manet and Mussolini. Nonetheless, this year includes the hundredth anniversaries of the births of Igor Stravinsky, James Joyce, John Barrymore and Sir Jack Hobbs. The first major alone has a pretty healthy crop: A. A. Milne and Virginia Woolf were born in January, 1882, and the French pianist Daniel Auber preceded them by exactly a century in the month when Johann Christian Bach, the least forgettable of Johann Sebastian's composer sons, died in London.

But perhaps the most significant of the January centenarians is that of a man whose decisions still shape our political world. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, when he signed the Yalta Treaty, surely did not foresee the misery to which he and Churchill were condemning the peoples of eastern Europe.

Peter Watson











Another  
'last' for  
Britain, page 13

# Business News

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 5 1982



## Washing machines lead big sales rush

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Larger domestic electrical appliances are selling well, particularly in the January sales. This is the first sign for more than a year of an improvement in the depressed manufacturing sector.

It appears to be part of a picture of heavy spending reported by many retailers after the first week of the January sales.

Washing machine sales are exceptionally buoyant, according to Mr David Johnson, chief executive of the Rumbelow's chain. Price cuts of around 10 per cent in domestic appliances at Rumbelow's have kept up the sales volumes.

Sears' Holdings' department stores, including Selfridges and the Lewis's chain, have had improved sales of domestic appliances before Christmas and in the past week. John Lewis Partnership's 16 stores also report steady sales of larger appliances and the 70 Debenhams stores reported good sales.

Zanussi, the Italian makers which now has a boosted sales operation in Britain, said the normal seasonal lull in orders had not appeared. Once retailers have stocked for Christmas and the January sales, there is usually a tailing off in orders.

Luton-based Electrolux, part of Sweden's Electrolux AB, is now back on full-time working except in a small part of its factory. There is less short-time working among a number of other manufacturers although Hoover said there was a fall-off in orders in mid-November.

But Hoover is expecting that overall in 1981 these will have been a marginal increase on 1980 sales, with this year expected to show further improvements.

The effect of the increased sales over the past few weeks has not yet fed back in orders to Electrolux, but the factory re-opened only yesterday after the holidays. Mr John Redman, the company's British chief said "Reports so far indicate improved sales, particularly of the more expensive ranges, so we have hopes of replacement orders this month."

Retailers have been surprised at the volume of sales last week because it was feared the almost year-long sales in the High Streets would have blunted the edge of the traditional January sales.

Rumbelow's claimed its pre-Christmas sales were up between 15 and 17 per cent compared with last year, with only about 5 per cent inflation to net out. In the past week sales have been truly remarkable, said Mr Johnson, with the demand continuing for video cassette recorders and television sets. He said more business was done last week than in the week before Christmas according to initial returns.

## Gill may vote for his own cash pay-off

By Philip Robinson

Mr Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation could help vote himself a record £750,000 golden handshake.

It emerged last night that legal opinion is still divided over whether Mr Gill, 62, who was dismissed from his £100,000 a year job last August, would be able to cast the 15 per cent voting share he still holds in favour of a package which would give him £560,000 for loss of office, £72,823 worth of pension and the option to buy a £275,000 company house for £165,822. One legal opinion is that as Mr Gill is no longer a director of the company, he is free to use his shareholding as he sees fit. But even if he abstains, the ACC board has sufficient support to vote through the £560,000 compensation for loss of office. Lord Grade has already told shareholders that directors - believed to be himself, Mr Louis Michael, Mr Louis Benjamin and Mr Norman Collins - have pledged their 45.3 per cent shareholding in his favour for Friday's special shareholders' meeting.

It is understood there is sufficient backing to gain approval for the second resolution which allows him to buy the freehold of the company-owned house. Although not admitted, ACC has conducted a thorough poll taking the most pessimistic view and says it will still emerge with a majority for the compensation package. The board however will not have the backing of at least



Jubilant Ryton workers push out the Horizon

## Talbot's British Horizon rolls out at Ryton

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Talbot's Ryton car plant near Coventry returned to full five-day working yesterday after 16 months as the first British-built Horizon left the assembly line.

Peugeot - Talbot's French parent group - has been persuaded to build the Horizon in Britain because of a remarkable 40 per cent improvement in productivity and quality at Ryton over the past two years.

The car will fill the gap which has existed in Talbot's range since Sunbeam production ceased last spring with the closure of its loss-making Linwood, Renfrewshire, plant. The Sunbeam was Talbot's main fleet car. The imported French-built Horizon was not acceptable to companies eager to buy British vehicles.

Talbot has already received advance orders worth over £12m for the Ryton Horizon which is 60 per cent (by value) British sourced. The biggest order has come from Topperware. Around 1,200 Horizons worth about £5m will be delivered this year.

British Telecom has also ordered 775 Horizons and 175 Solaris worth over £4.3m.

Mr George Turnbull, chairman and managing director of Talbot UK, said: "The introduction of Horizon to Britain means much more to this company's future than just another car. It is the

## Councillors fly out in battle for Nissan

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

A civic delegation from Humberston flew to Tokyo yesterday in another attempt to persuade the Nissan motor company to build its proposed £300m British car plant near Immingham.

The visit, by four county councillors and two council officials, comes after Nissan's promise to make a decision on the project early this year.

Competition is now expected to intensify among development corporations and local authorities in Wales and the North of England, hoping for the factory.

Humberston, however, remains a clear favourite. The Japanese have selected a potential site in the North and the most likely is between Grimsby and Immingham with its deep-water port.

Councillor Michael Wheaton, leader of Humberston County Council, said: "This is a possibility which comes only once on a lifetime. If we did nothing and the factory went elsewhere we would be accused of neglecting the economy."

The visit, he added, would cost about £10,000 but the Nissan investment would create direct and indirect jobs for 12,000 people and inject £250m a year into the Humberston economy.

## Pound boosted by firm interest rates

By Frances Williams

The pound began 1982 trading on a confident note yesterday, buoyed by high domestic interest rates. It gained strongly on both the dollar and continental currencies during the day before declining from its peak levels in late London trading.

At one point the pound rose to \$1.9375, 2 1/2 cents above Thursday's closing level, before ending the day with a gain of 1.65 cents at \$1.9265, the highest for nearly 4 weeks. The index measuring its wider international value finished 0.4 up at 91.3, also a four-week high, after reaching 91.5 at midday.

The likelihood of continuing to believe that there are interest rates underpinned sterling's strength. Conditions in the London money markets are expected to be very tight over the coming weeks as huge sums of money flow into Eschequer coffers. The peak tax gathering season has just begun and in addition several billion pounds of tax owing from the civil service dispute remain to be collected.

In January alone some analysts believe there could be a £2,000m to £3,000m shortage in the money markets, putting severe upward pressure on short-term interest rates. However, the Bank of Eng-

## BP sells travel subsidiary

By Our Commercial Editor

British Petroleum is to sell Rankin Kuhn, its travel agency subsidiary, to Thomas Cook in a deal thought to be worth around £1.5m. A management buy-out was put to the company but was turned down.

Thomas Cook yesterday said very few redundancies were expected among the 265-strong workforce since all staff are being retained at Rankin Kuhn branches and their airport establishments. Rankin Kuhn has a dozen retail outlets including one in West Germany.

BP bought the travel agency in 1965 mainly to have an in-house arrangement for its own travel requirements. A third of Rankin Kuhn's £35m annual turnover is accounted for by BP business.

The Rankin Kuhn name will gradually disappear after Thomas Cook takes over. The deal is subject to contract. Cook's has been pursuing a policy of expansion and currently has 188 agency outlets plus another 70 offering currency exchange facilities. Cook's has 1,000 offices worldwide in 145 countries.

For the time being Rankin Kuhn's tours programme will continue to be operated by Rankin Kuhn.

## Film shares suspended

By Paul Maidment

American Communications Industries, Hollywood troubled low-budget film-maker and distributor, yesterday became the first company on London's Unlisted Securities Market to have its quotation suspended.

This was at ACCI's request pending an announcement of a capital reconstruction. Bankers Trust, the New York bank, has been working on schemes to convert into



## Hoechst

The Board of Management has announced an increase of the share capital to DM 2,353,386,550 by the creation of new Bearer Shares of DM 228,000,000 nominal value. DM 227,538,700 nominal of such new shares has been subscribed by a banking consortium and is being offered at a price of DM 95 per share of DM 50 nominal each, to the Company's shareholders, and holders of Option Warrants arising from either the Sterling 10% Guaranteed Unsecured Loan Stock 1980 of Hoechst Finance Limited, London or the 6 1/2% U.S. Dollar Loan 1979/89 of Hoechst Finance N.V., Amsterdam, on the following basis:-

- One new share of DM 50 for every 10 shares of DM 50 nominal.
- One new share of DM 50 in respect of Option Warrants covering the purchase of 10 shares of DM 50, such Bearer Warrants arising from the Sterling 10% Guaranteed Unsecured Loan Stock 1980 (issued in registered form) of Hoechst Finance Limited, London.
- One new share of DM 50 in respect of Option Warrants covering the purchase of 10 shares of DM 50 arising from the 6 1/2% U.S. Dollar Loan 1979/89 of Hoechst Finance N.V., Amsterdam.

The new shares (which will rank for dividends declared in respect of the business year 1982 and thereafter, will rank pari passu with existing shares) are being offered on the terms of the Company's announcement dated 5th January 1982. Copies of this announcement, with an English translation thereof, are available on request at the office of the London Paying Agent, S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. Application for admission of the new shares to the Official List will be made to the Council of The Stock Exchange.

## Stock Markets

FT Index 522.3 down 8.1  
FT Cilt 52.34 down 0.03  
FT All Share 310.10 down 3.02  
Bargains 13,503

## Sterling

\$1.9265 up 1.65 cent  
Index 91.3 up 0.4  
New York \$1.9360

## Dollar

Index 106.4 down 0.5  
DM 2.2422 down 163 pts

## Gold

\$395.50 down \$4.50  
New York: \$403.70

## Money

3 mth sterling 15 1/4-15 1/2  
3 mth Euro \$13 1/4-13 1/2  
6 mth Euro \$14 1/4-14 1/2

## PRICE CHANGES

### Rises

Beaumont Prop 5p to 135p  
Borthwick T 1p to 15p  
Borthwick Hgs 8p to 185p  
Brit & Comm 5p to 325p  
Gt Univ Stores 3p to 25p  
Hawkins & Tn 11p to 122p  
Jarvis J 4p to 134p  
Lawrence W 2p to 19p  
M&P Grp 2p to 42p  
Ford Knt 12p to 242p  
Scales G H 8p to 140p  
SCB Grp 5p to 440p  
Standard Tel 1p to 110p

### Falls

Angle Am Corp 12p to 66 1/2p  
Barlow Rand 12p to 425p  
Barlow Group 2p to 29p  
Cons Gold Fids 10p to 477p  
Crest T 10p to 90p  
French T 15p to 815p  
Purvison Cros 13p to 762p  
Sedco M'son 10p to 175p  
Sentrust 13p to 405p  
Stone Platt 1 1/2p to 14p  
Trust Sics 8p to 320p  
Tyle Invest 8p to 122p

## 41 tankers scrapped

Forty-one supertankers totalling almost 10 million tons deadweight were sold for scrapping during 1981, a 9 per cent decrease over the same period in 1980. Visitors abroad from the United Kingdom rose by 10 per cent to 17.37 million during the same period.

The travel account showed a £25m deficit in October, the latest month for which Department of Trade figures are available, with foreign visitors spending £300 in Britain (an increase of 27 per cent over October 1980), and UK resident spending £325m abroad (a 25 per cent increase).

The number of visitors overseas by UK residents increased to all areas, with those to the EEC countries up by 26 per cent. North American visitors to Britain increased 6 per cent, and those from other Western European countries by 7 per cent.

## Petrovit move to raise cash

Petrovit, a company formed to buy oil and gas producing property in the United States, announced yesterday that it is raising a minimum of \$10.5m and a maximum of \$14.5m through a private placing of its \$1 ordinary shares. The placing, handled by brokers Panmure Gordon, will remain open until January 22.

The company will explore three blocks in Galveston Bay, off Texas, and if successful, will apply for a dealing facility or listing on the Stock Exchange.

## £25m tours deficit

A total of 10.5 million visitors came to the UK in the first 10 months of 1981, a 9 per cent decrease over the same period in 1980. Visitors abroad from the United Kingdom rose by 10 per cent to 17.37 million during the same period.

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The number of visitors overseas by UK residents increased to all areas, with those to the EEC countries up by 26 per cent. North American visitors to Britain increased 6 per cent, and those from other Western European countries by 7 per cent.

## £30,000 for new market seat

The London International Financial Futures Exchange is expected to charge at least £30,000 a seat when it advertises applications for the second tranche of seats on January 14. In the first round 215 seats were allowed at £20,000 each. The higher price now being charged reflects the reduced risks participants run now that plans for the market are well advanced. Premises at the Royal Exchange are being fitted out and trading is expected to start in September.

## World Bank fees rising

World Bank directors will vote at a closed meeting today on a recommendation by Mr A. W. Clausen, president, for increases in the fees it charges poor countries for loans to raise their living standards. The 21 directors, representing 145 member governments, are expected to agree with no more than minor changes.

Future loans are expected to be made for as long as 50 years to the poorest countries which will have to pay an annual charge of 1 per cent, instead of the present 0.75 per cent. The loans are aimed at building roads and dams, and improving schools and farming. Though the change seems small, it could raise the total cost of a \$100m loan by \$1m - an important sum to a poor country.

No other interest is paid on such loans, which are granted by the bank's International Development Association.

There will be a rise to 1 per cent of the 0.75 per cent the World Bank itself now charges as a commitment fee on loans to countries somewhat better off. Such loans granted these days also require the borrower to pay interest at 11.6 per cent a year.

## Anti-marketeers warned

A British withdrawal from the European Economic Community, would be a disaster for our industry, according to a study commissioned by the European League for Economic Cooperation on investment in the United Kingdom.

Its author, Mr Kenneth Fleet, says that if such a decision were to be taken it would be a political act and not an economic judgment.

The only alternative to membership of the Community would be the creation of a siege economy on the Soviet pattern, said Mr Fleet.

## £187m order

Biwater Shellbear, of Dorking, has won a £187m contract to provide water supply systems to 94 towns and villages in Nigeria.

## Export drive

Thousands of exporters backed by the British Overseas Trade Board, are to exhibit their goods at trade fairs in 30 countries.

## TODAY

UK official reserves (December): London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-December); Capital issues and redemptions during December. Company results: Pleasurama (final).

## PROCEDURE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Holders in the United Kingdom wishing to take up rights must lodge any of the following:-

Coupon No. 42 detached from Bearer Share Certificates.  
Receipt B detached from Convertible Loan Stock 1975.  
Talon B detached from Option Warrants 1979.  
London Deposit Certificates for marking Square No. 33.

together with the relevant lodgement form during the subscription period from 17th January, 1982 to 20th January, 1982 inclusive between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) at the office of the London Paying Agent:-

S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD.,  
Coupon Department,  
St. Albans House,  
Goldsmith Street,  
London, EC2P 2DL. Tel: 01-600 4555 Ext. 6118

Lodgement forms are obtainable from the London Paying Agent.

Payment must be made in full on application and Temporary Receipts will be issued.

Holders wishing to make payment in Sterling should agree the applicable rate of exchange and the amount with the London Paying Agent.

Holders will be advised at a later date when the new Bearer Share Certificates are available to be exchanged for Temporary Receipts.

S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD.,  
London Paying Agent and Depositary.

5th January, 1982



## Recession spreads to more US industries

The United States recession widened in December, with continued deterioration in new orders, production, levels, capital spending, and employment, according to a monthly survey by a purchasing managers' group.

The recession also spread to more industries and regions that had not been affected before. Mr. Charles T. Kiley, chairman of the National Association of Purchasing Managers' business survey committee, said in New York yesterday.

The association's December membership survey of 225 industrial companies found that purchasing managers stepped up production at the expense of employment. Also 46 per cent of members said production was lower, compared with 40 per cent in November.

The number of managers reporting lower employment rose to 41 per cent from 36 per cent in November. The rate of decline was slowing a bit since September's big situation is the worst in over six years, the association's report added.

## Space-Age engine

Suzuki and Kyoto Ceramics have displayed a car powered by a space-age ceramic engine that they said consumes 38 per cent less fuel than conventional engines. The experimental car, using a three-cylinder, 2,000cc diesel engine, was unveiled in Tokyo and the designers said the engine was of an entirely new type which did not need a cooling system.

## Oil revenues drop

Norwegian oil revenues from 1982 to 1985, will be about 40,000 kroner (£3,389m) less than previously anticipated, Mr. Kaare Willoch, Prime Minister, warned. The revised 1982 national budget targets total state revenues this year of \$18,550m (£9,763m). Norway's national income this year generally would also be lower than 1981.

## Minimum wage rise

The French statutory minimum wage has increased by 2.2 per cent with effect from January 1 to 18.15 francs an hour from 17.76 francs, its level since November 1.

## Euro-Steel fall

November steel production in the European Community, excluding Greece, fell 1.6 per cent from October, but was up 8.7 per cent in the year, the Community's statistical agency said in Brussels yesterday.

## Fuel subsidy ends

Indonesia has slashed domestic fuel subsidies and increased petrol and oil prices by an average of 68 per cent.

## Swiss reserves

Foreign currency reserves of the Swiss National Bank rose 336.7m Swiss francs to 25,495m francs during the two-weeks ending on December 31, 1981, the bank reported yesterday.

## Refinery record

The Bahrain Sira refinery had a record output of 259,000 barrels a day in 1981, the Gulf News Agency said yesterday.

## UAE crude output

The United Arab Emirates produced a daily average of 1.4 million barrels of crude during 1981, a Petroleum Ministry report said in Abu Dhabi yesterday. It also showed that the 1981 production was 15 per cent below the 1980 rate.

## Chinese imports

Chinese imports of heavy industrial products dropped last year while purchases of agricultural goods, consumer items and raw materials for light industry rose significantly, the People's Daily newspaper said in Peking yesterday.

# Europe go-ahead to £700m state aid for steel

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 4

The European Commission has authorized the payment of state aid worth £700m to the steel industry of Belgium, France and Italy.

But it has made the grants subject to strict conditions including plant closures in the case of Belgium.

The Commission is allowing the Belgian Government to give a package of aid measures worth £139m to Cockerill-Sambre, the loss making group based in the French speaking south of the country.

To enable the company to survive the first months of 1982 it will be allowed to convert debts of Belgian Fr 5,200m into capital and will be lent Fr 4,100m by the state.

Cockerill-Sambre will also be allowed to draw on Fr 850m loan from the European Coal and Steel Community to help finance three investment projects in the Charleroi and Liege regions. But in return, the Belgian Government has agreed to the closure of two mills in Charleroi with an annual capacity of 700,000 tonnes of long products and two blast furnaces in Liege.

In France, the Commission has authorized the granting of Fr 4,430m (about £408m) of aid to the Usinor and Sacilor companies on condition that the government begin talks with the Brussels authorities on a restructuring programme for the company.

The conditions imposed by the Commission are part of its policy to gain control over the granting of state aids in the European steel industry. But the Brussels authorities are for the first time saying stress on the need for companies to keep to Europe's pricing discipline.

Both the Belgian and French steel industries are at the centre of United States complaints that EEC steel has been dumped on United States markets. The conditions being attached to the aids are probably intended to show the administration in Washington that Brussels is doing its best to prevent such practices.

The cost of making a home movie is expected to drop, possibly by a factor of 30, as a result of an agreement expected to be signed this year between five of the world's leading video manufacturers.

Tape for video cameras will cost no more than \$4 (£2.07) an hour compared with its rival, 8mm sound film, which costs nearly \$3 a minute.

The agreement to be signed by Matsushita, Hitachi, Sony, the Japanese Victor Company (JVC) and the Dutch company Philips will provide video cameras with a standard cassette between two and four hours long.

The companies, according to reports in the Tokyo daily newspaper Asahi, have already agreed on the length of the recording time, which could be the first step towards standardization.

Three systems of video recording are in use, developed by Sony, Philips and JVC. The agreement will concern only the video camera cassettes, but it should have a revolutionary impact on the technology.

The cameras could cost about \$800, but no film processing is required and the tape can be played back instantly.

It is hoped that the agreement will form the basis of discussions which will include tape speed and the format used by the video recorders themselves.

At present, more than 90 per cent of the world's recorders are made in Japan.

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"To study the clues as to what has happened in those three decades to reach the prevailing wisdom of today that smoking is so anti-social would be fascinating," Mr Bullmore says. "Perhaps in 100 years time people will look back and wonder how we ever indulged."

But for the moment he urges that the principle of competitive persuasion rules. "Any infringement of the individual's choice would be intolerable by a centralized corporate body and lead to nannysm."

So long as people are aware of the dangers — and they are — there is no conspiracy of silence on the part of the media or medical world, then I believe it is more dangerous, and presumptuous, that people could be told what to do."

It is a topic which is sure to take up rather more of his time in the future.

And only a few weeks ago the AA looked as though it had won a minor battle when Sir George Young, an Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, was reshuffled to a post of no real importance.

This led to speculation that legislation to replace the present two-year voluntary agreement, which runs out in July, looks increasingly unlikely.

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# General Motors top seller hit by slump and imports Chevrolet car sales tumble

Detroit, Jan 4.—Sales of Chevrolet cars, the fleet leader for General Motors, last year slipped a further 15 per cent from their poor 1980 figures. The fall in sales was the highest by any United States car.

For the first time in recent memory, a Chevrolet has not been the top-selling United States car week after week.

Chevrolet dealers, once among the industry's healthiest and wealthiest, have been closing up shop as profits have slowed or stalled.

One of every five cars sold in the United States is still a Chevrolet, but it used to be one in every four. Imports, which used to account for one car sale in five, now take nearly one in three.

Chevrolet's latest challenge to the imports, the compact Cavalier, has never recovered from its poor start last May, and import dealers do not consider it serious competition.

GM officials are concerned, with good reason. Chevrolet has traditionally accounted for more than half of GM's U.S. car and truck sales and a substantial share of its profits.

With three vehicle-assembly plants and 23 component factories, 73,000 employees, 5,800 dealers and 1980 sales of 2.2 million cars and trucks, Chevrolet alone would have ranked No. 12 among U.S. corporations in volume in 1980. The entire GM was No. 3, Ford's No. 6 and Chrysler No. 32.

Accordingly, GM is trying to bail out its flagship, Mr. F. James McDonald, GM's president, last summer presided over a day-long conference of Chevrolet's problems with dealer representatives. After careful study, GM has begun channeling extra help to Chevrolet in marketing, engineering styling and pricing.

"We're doing some fine-tuning," says Mr. Robert B. Smith, GM's chairman. Dealers and Chevrolet officials say such steps are starting to help, but nobody expects the division's deep-rooted problems to disappear quickly.

Chevrolet's most obvious problem is the two-year-old economic slump. Car sales have plunged disastrously for the whole industry, but Chevrolet has suffered more than some others because its generally lower-income clientele has been hurt the most.

At the same time, competition has grown fiercer than ever. "Being the largest in the industry, we're the target for everybody," Mr. Robert D. Lund, a GM vice president and Chevrolet general manager says.

Meanwhile Chevrolet officials say they are trying to reestablish Chevrolet's pricing advantage by holding the line on prices while the other divisions raise theirs.

"With the new products we have coming — both cars and trucks — we're very optimistic for 1982, Chevrolet dealers will begin selling a sleek new sports Camaro and new front-drive intermediates. Chevrolet also has high hopes for a small pickup introduced last autumn. Mr. Lund predicts that Chevrolet will sell 2.9 million cars and trucks in the model year ending September, up from 2.3 million in 1981.

The final figure will probably end up somewhere between these two extremes," Mr. John Brindley, a GM spokesman says.

Either way, high interest charges mean debt repayments are likely to cost the airlines \$1,500m in 1982 compared with \$1,200m last year.

They will also be re-examining fares, especially on the trend-setting Transatlantic routes, and some companies want rises.

Over-capacity — the equivalent of 56 empty Boeing 747 Jumbo jets were flying across the Atlantic every day last October — has sparked a price war which has been condemned by some airline executives. But they say they cannot allow competitors to take their business.

Mr Roy Watts, British Airways chief, which expected to lose \$180m in 1981, said in November there was "a clear distinction between a healthy competition for an expanding low-fare market and cut-throat rivalry for a stagnant market with prices being slashed for short-term advantage regardless of the circumstances."

The industry's hopes of bringing some stability to Transatlantic routes, where an estimated 125 different fares are charged on any given day, may depend on a meeting on January 12 in Miami — three days before a deadline set by the United States Civil Aeronautics Board for data members to show why they should not lose their present immunity from United States anti-monopoly laws when they set fares.

The Miami meeting will give the airlines a chance to discuss a United States proposal for fare bands within which carriers could raise or lower tariffs without prior government approval.

The world recession, which caused passenger traffic to fall last year while boosting interest payments on debt, has replaced fuel costs as the industry's main headache.

Mr Brindley says after the heady 1960s when traffic on scheduled routes expanded 10 per cent annually, growth in 1981 was only three per cent instead of the 4.5 per cent originally hoped for.

Traffic growth in passengers, freight and mail expressed in tonnes per kilometre travelled could however reach six per cent in 1982.

Business appointments

Another outsider joins Littlewoods group

Mr John Clement, chairman and chief executive of the Unigate Group, has been appointed a non-executive director of the Littlewoods Organisation. He is the second non-executive director from outside the Moores family. Mr M. F. Julien, group finance director of BIC, was appointed on September 1. Mr Clement has been chief executive of Unigate since 1976 and chairman since 1977.

Mr Thomas N. Risk has joined the board of Shell UK as a non-executive director. Mr Risk is governor of the Bank of Scotland and governor of the British Linen Bank. He is also a director of Standard Life Assurance Company, having been chairman from 1967-1974, and of Howden Group. He was formerly a partner of MacLay, Murray and Spens, solicitors, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Mr David V. Palmer has been appointed to the board of Morgan Grenfell Holdings. Mr A. R. Taylor has resigned from the board on his retirement as chairman of Willis Faber.

Mr D. E. Brown and Mr C. J. B. Green have been appointed to the board of Metal Market & Exchange. Mr M. A. Jones has been appointed secretary of the The Life Offices' Association. Mr Jones joined the association in 1968 and has been deputy secretary since 1974.

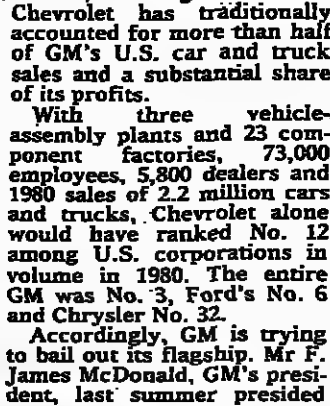
Mr E. C. Teideman has been appointed a director of Rea Brothers.

Mr David W. H. Knowles has become a director of Ashburton Consultants. In Mr D. C. Reid has joined the board of Arbutnot Assurance Consultants.

Mr A. N. Whitney is to join Rowland & Pitman, Stockbrokers on January 11 as head of research and an associate member.

Mr C. J. Earl has been appointed a director of the

Mr Ken Winter at work with his British-built Possum



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## InfoTech will aid disabled

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Information Technology Year was officially launched yesterday as the Year of the Disabled ended with a display in London of microelectronic equipment designed for the disabled.

One man who has benefited from the concept of the two years is Mr Ken Winter who works as a cost and management accountant from his home in Bath despite having suffered from multiple sclerosis for 20 years.

His British-built microelectronic Possum allows him to run his own business by giving him the facilities to type, dial and receive telephone calls and even open and close doors. A

coded typewriter is able to translate, through a blow-pipe, all the necessary commands. Other facilities on the unit allows Mr Winter to perform calculations, store and process information and communicate with similar other units.

The device represents the type of product expected to be encouraged by the campaign this year. Over £80m has been allocated by the government over the next four years in encouraging research and development in microelectronic products and promote the benefits of Information Technology.

This month the Infor-

mation Technology Year campaign will have separate regional launches in Scotland, London and the South East, the North West, the East, the West Midlands, the North East and Northern Ireland.

Exhibitions are to take place each month around the country illustrating the uses of microelectronics in business and the home. The campaign will be coordinated by Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, and a team of advisers.

The Times will publish a special report on Information Technology on January 14.

Marketing and advertising

The fight to save 007 from nanny

By Margaret Pagano

When James Bond lit his 70th cigarette that day in the opening chapter of Casino Royale it was at once a sign of masculinity and a symbol of the fifties.

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"If they do they won't buy it a second time, and then there is room for a second producer to come forward."

Mr Bullmore approaches his stint at the AA with a sense of light foreboding, but regards it as an honour, too.

Mr Bullmore is not so sure. "I don't think the AA exactly went out and drowned itself in Babysham but it would, after reaching a consensus view, probably do what it could to prevent a ban."

Irrespective of who is in office, he doubts very much the conspiracy theory that the tobacco behemoths forced the Government's hand, or that public opinion over the issue has diminished. The anti-smoking campaigners claim a substantial majority, should MPs be allowed a free vote.

While describing himself as still an outsider to the machinations of the AA, Mr Bullmore sees enormous value in what can be done to stir debate, produce facts and lobby. The sub-committee set up earlier in the year still exists to fight a ban.

He cites a recent finding by the AA that a ban would deprive consumers of important product information. "In fact, if there has been any influence this year, it has been price which has accounted for the decline in consumption. In the studies with a ban it has been shown more people smoke non-filter and high tar brands."

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"When everything is right there can be no better because no one is going to tell



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## The Alliance is the City's fair weather friend

The city expects little from Thatcherism (it cannot grow worse and it may get better), but it also seems to expect a lot from the Liberal-SDP Alliance. It is easy to see why. Mr Roy Jenkins, whom destiny now beckons to an easy win at Glasgow Hillhead, was the Chancellor who balanced the budget in 1967-70; common sense, moderation, centrism, call it what you will, appeals to men who wish only to be left alone to earn an honest or dishonest crust; the swift rise of an alternative to Labour may aid the Cabinet wets in their campaign to propel Sir Geoffrey Howe into reflation; and a split in the working class vote may keep Labour out of power in 1984. On the purely personal plane, the SDP's economic policy group has won praise through its academic clout. Nobel Prize winner Professor James Meade presides over a gaggle of moderate Keynesians dedicated to cautious expansion and incomes policy, but not to socialist planning.

The next election is still some way off but even so it is time that the Alliance came under a less superficial scrutiny. For one thing, if one thing only is sure — that the City will not be left alone to go about its business. The latest of a long line of critics who deplore the City's aggregation of savings while productive investment stays low is Mr Jo Grimond, the Liberal elder statesman.

It is not by their successes that today's political parties must be measured. The test is simply the way they shape up to adversity as the economy staggers from one crisis to another. In a formal sense we know nothing of Liberal-SDP policy. All we know is that the SDP leaders were all members of unsuccessful Labour Governments that plunged into a financial crisis that shook the base of our financial system in 1974 only to stumble into another in 1976 when the then Chancellor Mr Denis Healey, borrowed his way out yet another sterling crisis.

So the SDP believes, (if it does), in incomes policy. Senior trade unionists who might hope to give a beleaguered Chancellor a pause in some future wage inflation are not prominent in SDP councils. They never were in Liberal circles.



Mr Roy Jenkins

Without an incomes policy an SDP Chancellor would (like a Tory one) be forced either to tinker the money supply, the exchange rate and interest rates much as the present incumbent tries to do, or let inflation rip. There are no easy answers. The suspicion must be that to tackle unemployment, an Alliance Chancellor would, by pumping demand into the economy choose faster inflation and an eventual rise in Government borrowing. This would dismay the gilt edged market. Alternatively, such a Chancellor would be tempted to do officially, what is increasingly done unofficially — conscript the cash held by pension funds and insurance companies to fund Government indebtedness. The question has to be faced — is the Gang of Four a gaggle of Socialists or simply a clutch of wets. If the first, then the City would soon be driven to despair; if the second, it would be driven to distraction.

It is not irrelevant that Mr Edward Heath is hinting at cooperation between "Wet" Tories and the Alliance to form an effective Government after the election. A characteristic response to another economic crisis would be for such an Administration to fall back on price controls, profit margin controls, dividend curbs and further increases in taxes on incomes and savings. It has

happened before under a Conservative Government, and a combination of inflation and dividend freeze sent the FT ordinary share tumbling to 146 as 1974 turned into 1975. It could happen again; there are no votes in the City.

■ The Stock Exchange is likely to have to review the modest entry requirements of companies onto the unlisted securities market after the flying start the market made in its first year. There were bound to be the occasional slip-up in this nursery market as new companies tried to find their feet. But the recent setback at Euroflame, yesterday's news that the American Communications Industries was undergoing a capital reconstruction and the profits collapse at United Electronics Holdings last November are uncomfortable indications that investors are not getting all the information or safeguards they should.

The USM market has enabled many smaller companies secure a listing as well as raise money for expansion without all the paraphernalia associated with a full listing. But The Stock Exchange's enthusiasm for cranking the second-tier market into action now, with the benefits of some hindsight, seems to have blurred its judgment somewhat. After all the original entry requirements were toned down because many thought they would deter potential entrants. But it won't take many more setbacks to force the authorities into a rethink.

### Non-voting shares Thumbs down for ACC

Non-voting shares were a contentious issue a decade ago. The abortive 1973 Companies Bill would have abolished them altogether as an undemocratic blot on the City's escutcheon. But since then, the number of enfranchisements has grown, with large companies like Rank Organisation, Thorn and Burton leading the way after broadside from supporters of shareholder democracy and the need to raise capital.

Now the issue has come alive again in the case of Associated Communications Corporation where a mere 150,000 voting shares control the company. Only in September last year, ACC chairman, Lord Grade stated he would never enfranchise the non-voting "A" shares and told disaffected holders who had lost faith in the company to leave it.

Yet, fortunately, there are other powers with the force to make Lord Grade eat his words. A simple amendment to the 1981 Companies Act would suffice. Or the Stock Exchange could refuse a listing to any company which failed to operate on the principle of one shareholder, one vote.

There is (just) a case to be made for protecting a small, public company from predators in the early stages of its stock market life. But ACC, like Rank and Burton, is a mature group which cannot hide behind this excuse.

Non-voting shares are outlawed in the United States and virtually unknown on the Continent. The National Association of Pension Funds has conducted a campaign against them for years because it rightly feels institutional investors ought to be able to exert influence over a company where they are big shareholders.

This trend towards institutional involvement is to be welcomed because it fulfils a need for the owners and the managers of British to work together. The anachronism of non-voting shares frustrates this fundamental requirement.

But it is not only the issue of enfranchisement which is exercising the anger of the institutions over ACC. Behind the legal moves undertaken by the NAFP, is the desire for change at the top of the company. Lord Grade must, with Mr Jack Gill, be given the main portion of credit for the development of ACC. But he is now 75 and has made some large-scale blunders in the past.

ACC is now without direction and on the verge of important sell-offs. For the sake of the company, Lord Grade should decide this is an appropriate moment to retire.

## Business Diary: Sick as a parrot

I don't know how many of you were aware of the crisis in the parrot trade, but even if you weren't I'm sure you'll be pleased to know that it appears to be over. The ban imposed by the Government last October on imports of caged birds and racing pigeons is to be lifted on January 18.

The purpose of the ban was to prevent the spread of Newcastle Disease or, to use its better known name, Fowl Pest. To Britain's poultry farms. After years of relying on mass vaccination, the Government recently decided that it would be easier to place more stringent conditions on imports.

Unfortunately one of the main dangers comes from those of our more exotic feathered friends which come from parts of the world where the disease is endemic. The three month ban was bitterly resented within the

trade and, according to Phil Reid, editor of *Cage and Aviary Birds*, several small importers have probably been forced out of business.

The bigger firms have managed to survive on the sale of domestic birds, cages, foods and so on. Eric Feasey, secretary of the Pet Trade Association, who has been mainly responsible for negotiations with the Ministry of Agriculture, says that most of his members are happy with the new restrictions which in future will oblige all birds of the parrot feather to pass through the Animal Quarantine Station at Heathrow.

One of the main difficulties in the past has been for inspectors at ports of entry to identify species and to count the exact numbers. Both the ministry and the association are confident that

the new system will make it far more difficult for sick parrots to slip through the net.

Talked to somebody at a party who turned out to be a member of a family who make lime juice. Says I: "Drink nothing but lime juice and soda for six months when I had hepatitis a while ago." Says he: "How awful. If you drop it on a concrete floor it goes right through. We had terrible trouble with the floors at the factory." See you tomorrow, maybe.

### Scotch missed?

I'm told that the half-price of Scotch in Saudi Arabian hotels, which usually goes up from £25 to as much as £80 at Christmas in a "dry", non-Christian country, is unlikely to come down this New Year.

Thirsty, purse-proud Westerners are spreading the story that the black market is being bled white by those AWACS surveillance planes the Americans have sold and are now flying for the Saudis.

The small aircraft that used to nip over the border from Jordan bearing Scotch for the unofficial black market are unable to slip by the AWACS, nor are the larger planes operated by the official black market.

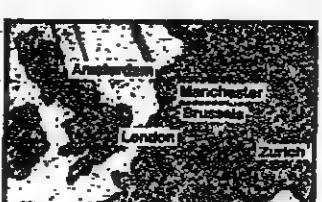
I will have no truck with guys that say that the decline of the official black market hits in the pocket of an official, at the Ministry for Defence and Aviation, or the man who brought in AWACS.

### Bar none

The GLC, which does not have a kind word to spare for one such as a lawyer at the moment, nonetheless has nothing but praise for lawyers in general.

The ruling by Lord Wilberforce against the GLC's cheap fares policy, promises ghastly financial and political troubles in the New Year.

Thanks, however, to co-operation between the GLC and the solicitors' and lawyers' bodies, the Law Society and the Bar Council, another and less distressing if more distant prospect is in sight.



Last you be quizzed in the streets of Hexham by Peruvians anxiously thumbing a Dutch phrasebook, or alternatively are waylaid in Amsterdam by another or possibly the same group of South Americans asking the way to Coronation Street. Business Diary now arms you with the explanation.

The above fragment of an airline route map appeared in the *Lima Times*. Part of a double-page advertisement for Air Florida, the map appeared beneath the legend "Our name tells you where we came from. But not always where we go."

Happy Landings in 1982.

This is the arrival in London in July 1985 of a 12,000-strong contingent of lawyers and their camp followers from the American Bar Association.

They usually stay in the United States and although in 1985 they will meet in Washington, the lawyers have already decided to have half their meeting in London as well. This, so I hear, could

bring into the capital about £20m in spending on travel, accommodation, shopping and entertainment.

### Chain reaction

Geoffrey Smith, director of the London Convention Bureau, has this story to tell of a German delegate who came to a meeting in London. On the train up to Victoria from Dover, the delegate popped into the toilet but then was so ill advised as to pull the communication cord.

The train accordingly ground to a halt and the delegate was equally accordingly invited to make a £50 contribution to BR funds.

"Mein Gott," exclaimed the delegate, "I thought it flushed the toilet!"

BR pondered this breakdown in communication and decided to accept the explanation rather than the fine.

Says the latest edition of the convention bureau's newsletter, LCB Diary "If the news got back that it even costs £50 to go to the loo, Auf Wiedersehen to our campaign about reasonable prices and value for money."

Ross Davies

An industrial design showcase is to open soon in London. Helen Barker reports.

## Another 'last' for Britain is object lesson for students

There are more successful design consultancies here than in almost any other country on earth. But they are all working for foreign organizations.



Stephen Bayley: disconsolate about lack of interest by British companies.

### Familiar story

"There is an enormous amount going on in England. There are more successful design consultancies here than in almost any other country on earth. But sadly, they are all working for foreign organizations," he says. It is a familiar story, typified in a recent Design Centre exhibition, "Designed in Britain, Made Abroad."

"It is simultaneously interesting and tantalizing," says Bayley. "People in Scandinavia and America look to England for inspiration. To a Californian designer the Design Council is a glowing torch. But just look at the products. Olivetti (Italy) makes the best electric typewriters, Pentel (Japan) the best throwaway pens. He traces much of the fault to "a total failure of higher education to recognize con-

temporary commercial reality. Our universities are deplorably deficient in visual and consumer culture."

Design education is very good, he believes, but abundant native talent is squandered through lack of integration with industry. Bayley diagnoses short-term accounting and a critical lack of research and development as the major deficiencies of British manufacturing, and accuses managements of a stubborn indifference to design.

### Indifference

The Boilerhouse shows with document all stages of design from conception to consumption, using models, prototypes and final products with briefs, blueprints and promotional archives. Exhibitors will be chosen with regard to their significance as part of a manufacturing process, rather than on aesthetic grounds. "We are anxious not to be involved in taste-making," says Bayley. The centre should operate as "a general information service, a practical working laboratory."

Bayley hopes to build up a collection over five years of temporary exhibitions based at the V & A; random gifts of vintage household appliances are already pouring in.

### Light the fire

While the Design Centre is constrained by its role as a shop-window for British design, the Boilerhouse has no such bias. It licenses its premises from the V & A but is an independent institution. It intends to take advantage of this to be critical and challenging. "The Boilerhouse will be abrasive, hard and realistic," he promises. And that is what is needed to light the fire under apathetic British manufacturers.

## Can Mr Reagan keep the lid on inflation?

Washington. Like Mrs Thatcher, President Reagan was elected on a promise to reduce inflation. In contrast to the British experience, there was significant progress towards lower inflation in America during the new administration's first year in office. Consumer prices rose at an annualized rate of 8.4 per cent in the latest three months, to last November. During the final three months of Mr Carter's Presidency the inflation rate on this measure topped 13 per cent.

But in the coming year Mr Reagan faces a more severe test of his anti-inflation policy. Much of the 1981 improvement was due to a once for all slowdown in food and energy price rises. The underlying rate of wage increase, larger in non-union sectors, are due to renegotiate the multi-year contracts which will set their wage increases for several years ahead.

So far, despite the slowdown in consumer price rises during 1981, the underlying rate of wage inflation has stayed at between 8 and 9 per cent. If there is to be further substantial improvement in the overall inflation rate during Mr Reagan's four year term then there must be some firm signs of it in this year's wage settlements.

Many economists, including some of those who know

most about the labour market, fear that these may be only slight, but the present deep recession in America is already pushing the unions to lower their demands.

The recession has hit first and hardest at some of the large unions whose contracts are up for renegotiation in 1982, and who are now paid higher than average wages. The biggest is the United Auto Workers whose contract runs out in September. The Teamsters Union, which covers the trucking industry is already close to settlement on its new contract and is said to have agreed to significant concessions in the wake of recent very large job losses.

The rubber workers, due to sit down with employers in the spring, may also temper their wage claims because of weakness in the industry. And in an unprecedented move, the UAW agreed last month to consider reopening the present contract for car workers employed by Ford and General Motors. The companies want lower wages, or worse fringe benefits, for greater job security or at least longer notice of layoffs.

Even if the negotiations break down, they are a dramatic sign of the union's weakness. If the recession continues well into this year then wages throughout the economy will probably respond to some extent: they are usually more sensitive to changes in demand in the United States than in Britain. Of course, such a policy of forcing down inflation through high unemployment

and a repressed economy flies in the face of the rest of Mr Reagan's campaign promises. It is known in administration circles as "Thatcherization". The President still claims that his policies can achieve both faster growth and lower inflation simultaneously.

Nevertheless, the recession is largely responsible for the forecasts from many private economists that inflation will moderate still further this year and next. And it is certainly a result of the anti-inflationary tight money policy of the Federal Reserve which Mr Reagan supports.

Recession apart, Mr Reagan has also been just lucky. Energy and food prices which helped to send inflation soaring above 17 per cent, when measured on a three monthly basis, in early 1980, have since then fallen sharply. The much higher dollar has also restrained import prices.

Even if there is no marked slowdown in wage rises, consumer price inflation this year will probably be a little less than the 9 1/2 per cent expected to be recorded for 1981. Since this figure was a substantial improvement from the 12.4 per cent rise in the consumer price index during President Carter's last year in office, Mr Reagan will probably be able to claim some success in the anti-inflation battle whatever the outcome of this year's bargaining.

However, the administration is forecasting a much better inflation performance than that. Its latest unpub-

lished economic projections are thought to show inflation sliding to as low as 4 per cent by the middle of the decade. Few outsiders agree with this optimism. The main private forecasters expect inflation of 8 to 8.5 per cent in 1982 and 7 to 7.5 per cent in 1983, with only slight, if any further deceleration in 1984.

The multi-year contracts which help to slow the wage price spiral when inflation is pushed up by an outside shock — such as dearer oil — also build on inertia when inflation is slowing.

The earnings of American workers, after adjusting for changes in overtime, have failed to keep pace with prices in each of the last three years.

This is the main reason why inflation is now coming down from the heights that rising energy prices, bad harvests and a leap in housing costs sent it to in 1979 and 1980.

But it also suggests that to bring wage increases much below the 8 per cent to 9 per cent range that they stayed in during those three years will be difficult, and probably extremely costly in terms of lost employment and output.

Professor William Nordhaus of Yale University, commented recently that it would take unemployment of 8 per cent "as far as the eye can see" to bring inflation down substantially. The jobless rate had already jumped beyond that to 8 1/2 per cent at the end of last year, and both the administration and Congress are unhappy with such levels.

Mr Reagan refuses to accept that there may be a trade off between inflation and unemployment, and that his anti-inflation policies imply high levels of unemployment.

He does not explain how he expects the tight money policy, which he advocates, to translate into lower wage and price rises. He is also apparently determined to persist with a fiscal policy which will be extremely expansionary this year and in 1983 and 1984. He hopes and expects that the planned tax cuts will stimulate the economy later this year and next.

But if they do, what will become of the attempt to halve the inflation rate in the next few years? It would be rash to rely on energy costs, food costs and higher dollar to do the trick. And as the British Government has learned, money policy does not provide a painless way of reducing inflation.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve, appears determined nevertheless to continue with his very tight money policy, even if the costs are high. Most private economists predict a slower than usual recovery from the recession, and continued high levels of unemployment for several years because of the Federal Reserve's fight against inflation.

This may keep the lid on wage rises, and perhaps dampen the inflation rate down further. Mr Volcker is cautiously optimistic that this will happen. But he also wants the President to cut the budget deficit considerably and to set budgetary policy on a much less expansionist path.

Although Mr Reagan is also committed to reducing government borrowing he is not apparently willing to take the measures needed to do this, or to encourage continued high unemployment. Then the rapid economic growth that he has promised is unlikely to materialise.

Caroline Atkinson

### Base Lending Rates

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| ABN Bank          | 14 1/2% |
| Barclays          | 14 1/2% |
| BCCI              | 14 1/2% |
| Consolidated Crds | 15%     |
| C. Hoare & Co     | 14 1/2% |
| Lloyds Bank       | 14 1/2% |
| Midland Bank      | 14 1/2% |
| Nat Westminster   | 14 1/2% |
| TSB               | 14 1/2% |
| Williams & Glyn's | 14 1/2% |

\* 7 day deposit on sum of £10,000 and under 12% p.a. £50,000 13% over

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### The Over-the-Counter Market

| 1981/82 | High | Low                | Company | Price | Ch   | or   | Gross | Yld  | P/E | Div | Actual | Taxed |
|---------|------|--------------------|---------|-------|------|------|-------|------|-----|-----|--------|-------|
| 118     | 100  | ABI Hldgs 10% CULS | 118     | —     | 10.0 | 8.5  | —     | —    | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 75      | 62   | Airsprung Group    | 68      | —     | 4.7  | 8.8  | 11.0  | 15.2 | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 51      | 33   | Armitage & Rhodes  | 45      | —     | 4.3  | 9.6  | 3.8   | 8.5  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 200     | 187  | Bardon Hill        | 200     | —     | 9.7  | 4.9  | 9.7   | 11.8 | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 104     | 86   | Deboral Services   | 86      | —     | 5.5  | 6.4  | 4.3   | 8.1  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 126     | 97   | Frank Horsell      | 126     | —     | 6.4  | 5.1  | 11.4  | 23.3 | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 68      | 39   | Frederick Parker   | 68      | —     | 1.7  | 2.5  | 29.6  | —    | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 78      | 46   | George Blair       | 48      | —     | —    | —    | —     | —    | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 102     | 93   | IPC                | 97      | —     | 7.3  | 7.5  | 7.0   | 10.5 | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 113     | 95   | Jackson Group      | 98      | —     | 7.0  | 7.1  | 3.1   | 7.0  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 130     | 108  | James Burroughs    | 113     | —     | 8.7  | 7.7  | 8.2   | 10.4 | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 334     | 258  | Robert Jenkins     | 260     | —     | 31.3 | 12.0 | 3.6   | 9.2  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 99      | 51   | Scrutons "A"       | 55      | —     | 5.3  | 9.6  | 8.5   | 7.9  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 222     | 167  | Torday & Carlisle  | 167     | —     | 10.7 | 6.4  | 5.4   | 9.9  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 15      | 10   | Twinkl Ord         | 12      | —     | —    | —    | —     | —    | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 80      | 66   | Twinkl 15% ULS     | 74      | —     | 15.0 | 20.3 | —     | —    | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 44      | 29   | Udell Holdings     | 29      | —     | 3.0  | 10.3 | 5.2   | 8.3  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 103     | 77   | Walker Alexander   | 77      | —     | 6.4  | 8.3  | 5.1   | 9.0  | —   | —   | —      | —     |
| 263     | 212  | W. S. Yeates       | 214     | —     | 13.1 | 6.1  | 4.1   | 8.2  | —   | —   | —      | —     |

Prices now available on Prestel Page 48146

### Wallchart

I MUST CHECK THIS MORNING'S BUSINESS NEWS...

### TO SEE IF THE WORST OF THE RECESSION...

...IS STILL OVER...

### TO SEE IF THE WORST OF THE RECESSION...

...IS STILL OVER...



**\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

هكذا آمن المسلمون



















**Edited by Peter Dear**




## A high-contrast, black and white photograph of two men sitting at a table, smiling and drinking. The man on the left is wearing a light-colored shirt and tie, and the man on the right is wearing a dark suit and glasses. The table is set with plates, glasses, and bottles. A lamp is visible in the background.

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| 9.3  | 8.56 | 1.3 |
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| 4.5  | 7.01 | 0.0 |
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| 9.3  | 4.28 | 0.0 |
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| 12.5 | 3.76 | 0.0 |
| 1.3  | 3.63 | 0.0 |
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